



October 1, 2018

To Our Hospital Partners in Antibiotic Stewardship:

As you know, our ability to use antibiotics in many medical fields is under threat from the growing problem of antibiotic resistance. Widespread and inappropriate use of antibiotics are the major drivers of resistance. Because antibiotic choices made for one patient influence our options in the future, we must empower providers to choose wisely by developing systems that utilize evidence-based approaches to improve prescribing. We must also utilize methods to track antibiotic use and our progress toward best prescribing practice. These approaches require strong leadership commitment from hospital administration and physician leaders, as well as education and engagement of staff and patients. Comprehensive antibiotic stewardship (AS) programs formalize these elements and provide healthcare facilities with a pathway to success.

The **Minnesota Antibiotic Stewardship Honor Roll for Hospitals** has been designed in an effort to recognize the programs you have developed and the commitment you have made to antibiotic stewardship. With this new statewide initiative, we aim to:

- Encourage AS commitment from the highest level of administration to prescribers and caregivers,
- Share hospital AS activities with health professionals and the public, with the aims of highlighting new ideas and encouraging hospital-to-hospital engagement,
- Provide incentive for AS program improvement in individual hospitals and statewide through mentorship, and
- Publicize the importance of antibiotic responsibility.

The Minnesota Antibiotic Stewardship Honor Roll is supported by Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Hospital Association, Stratis Health, Association for Professionals in Infection Control (APIC), and promoted on behalf of the Collaborative Healthcare-Associated Infection Network (CHAIN).

**Please consider submitting an application for recognition on the Minnesota Antibiotic Stewardship Honor Roll at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/onehealthabx/honor.html>.** We look forward to learning about what you do to practice AS in your hospital and beyond!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Beaudoin".

Amanda Beaudoin, DVM, PhD

Minnesota One Health Antibiotic Stewardship Collaborative

