



October 1, 2018

To Our Long-Term Care 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 facility administration and stewardship leaders, as well as education and engagement of staff, residents, and families. Comprehensive antibiotic stewardship (AS) programs formalize these elements and provide a pathway to success.

The **Minnesota Antibiotic Stewardship Honor Roll for Long-Term Care** 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 long-term care AS activities with health professionals and the public, with the aims of highlighting new ideas and encouraging facility-to-facility engagement,
- Provide incentive for AS program improvement in individual facilities and statewide through mentorship, and
- Publicize the importance of antibiotic responsibility.

The Minnesota Antibiotic Stewardship Honor Roll is supported by Minnesota Department of Health, Leading Age Minnesota, Care Providers of Minnesota, Stratis Health, Minnesota Hospital Association, 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/index.html>. We look forward to learning about what you do to practice AS in your facility and beyond!

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

Amanda Beaudoin, DVM, PhD

Minnesota One Health Antibiotic Stewardship Collaborative
Minnesota Department of Health

