

# Review examines antibiotic prescribing in outpatient telemedicine

November 6 2023, by Kathryn Ryan

---



### **Commitment**

Demonstrate dedication to and accountability for optimizing antibiotic prescribing and patient safety.



### **Action for policy and practice**

Implement at least one policy or practice to improve antibiotic prescribing, assess whether it is working, and modify as needed.



### **Tracking and reporting**

Monitor antibiotic prescribing practices and offer regular feedback to clinicians, or have clinicians assess their own antibiotic prescribing practices themselves.



### **Education and expertise**

Provide educational resources to clinicians and patients on antibiotic prescribing and ensure access to needed expertise on optimizing antibiotic prescribing.

Core elements of outpatient antibiotic stewardship. Credit: *Telemedicine and e-*

A new report in the journal *Telemedicine and e-Health* provides a review of the published literature on antibiotic prescribing and antibiotic stewardship in outpatient telemedicine. At least 28% of antibiotic use in outpatient settings is unnecessary, contributing to excess costs, adverse drug events, and antibiotic resistance.

Antibiotic stewardship, as provided for in a framework developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is the effort to improve [antibiotic use](#) so that antibiotics are only prescribed when they provide a clear benefit.

Guillermo Sanchez, MSHS, PA-C, MPH, from the CDC, and co-authors, conducted a literature search to identify studies describing antibiotic use and antibiotic stewardship interventions in outpatient telemedicine.

"Our narrative review findings suggest that there is growing evidence describing antibiotic use in outpatient telemedicine, including an expansion of implementation studies exploring application of antibiotic stewardship interventions to this setting, including those which have been used extensively in face-to-face outpatient care," stated the investigators.

The investigators provide a detailed description of how telemedicine settings can initiate antibiotic stewardship.

"From the onset of incorporating telemedicine and telehealth into [health care](#), we have observed unique applications such as antibiotic stewardship. These have become commonplace in efficacy and utility in

our quest for better health care," says Charles R. Doarn, MBA, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal and Research Professor in the Department of Environmental and Public Health Sciences, and Director of the Space Research Institute for Discovery and Exploration at the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**More information:** Guillermo V. Sanchez et al, Antibiotic Stewardship in Outpatient Telemedicine: Adapting Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Core Elements to Optimize Antibiotic Use, *Telemedicine and e-Health* (2023). [DOI: 10.1089/tmj.2023.0229](https://doi.org/10.1089/tmj.2023.0229)

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc

Citation: Review examines antibiotic prescribing in outpatient telemedicine (2023, November 6) retrieved 28 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2023-11-antibiotic-outpatient-telemedicine.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--