

# MANAGEMENT OF ARTI IN PEDIATRICS

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# ANTIBIOTICS TO CHILDREN

Characteristic	Prescriptions, No. in Millions (%) <sup>a</sup>	Prescriptions per 1000 Persons, Rate
Age group, y		
0–2	15.4 (21)	1287
3–9	29.1 (40)	1018
10–19	29.3 (40)	691
Antibiotic agent (top 5)		
Amoxicillin	24.9	300
Azithromycin	15.2	183
Amoxicillin-clavulanate	7.2	87
Cefdinir	6.1	74
Cephalexin	4.6	56

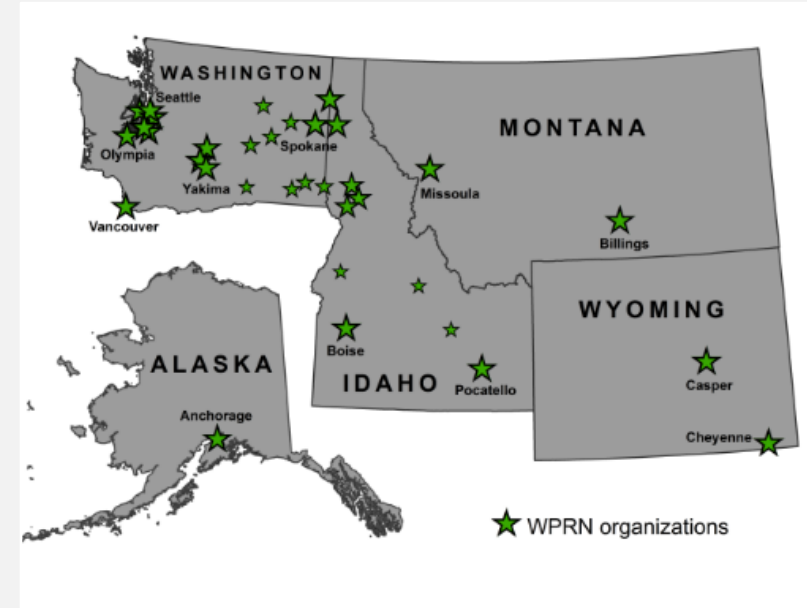
**TABLE 1** Antibiotic-Prescribing Patterns Across Diagnostic Conditions

Condition	Across-Condition Contribution to Antibiotic Prescribing, %
Respiratory	72.3
ARTIs for which antibiotics are indicated	48.9
ARTIs for which antibiotics are not indicated	13.1
Other respiratory conditions for which antibiotics are not definitely indicated	10.3
Other	27.7
Skin/cutaneous/mucosal	11.9
Urinary tract infections <sup>a</sup>	2.0
Gastrointestinal infections	0.3
Miscellaneous infections	1.9
Other	11.6
Total	100 <sup>a</sup>



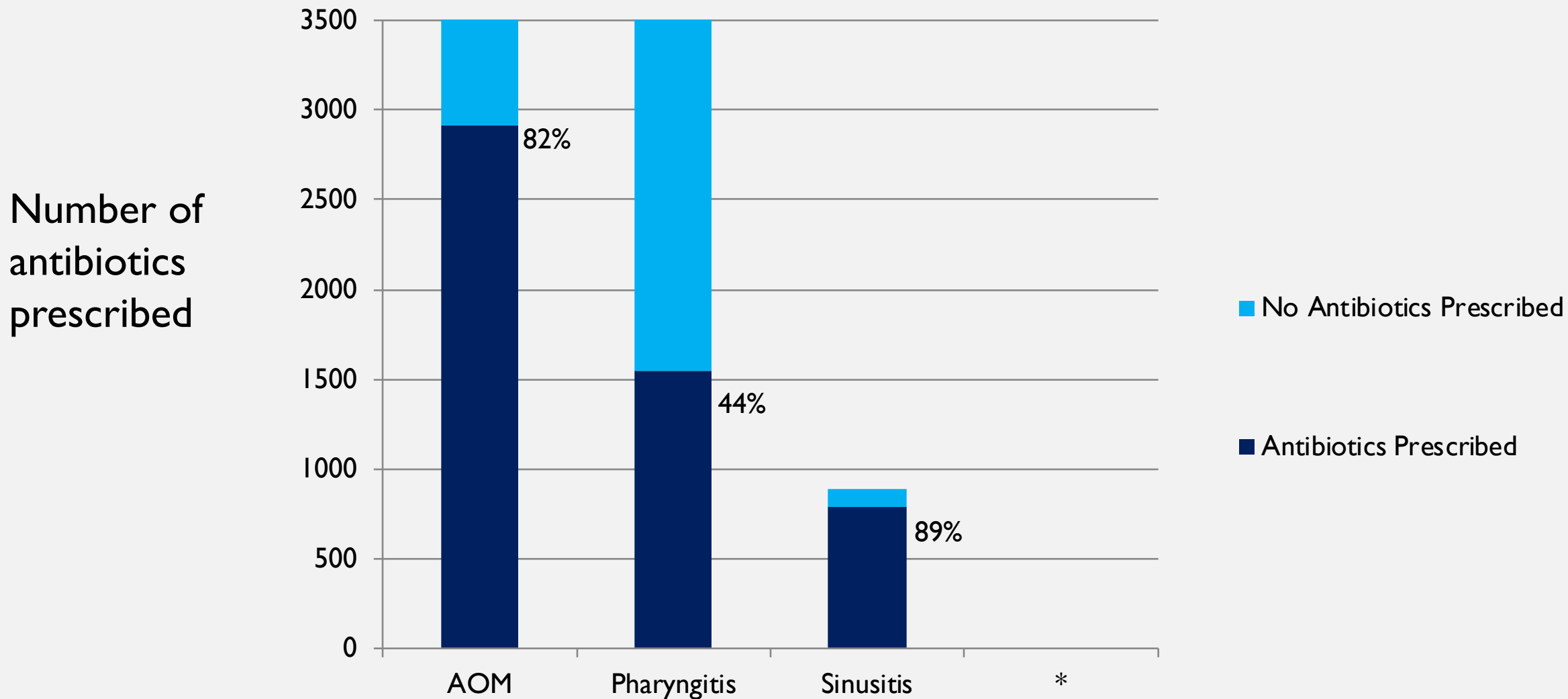
# WWAMI REGION PRACTICE AND RESEARCH NETWORK (WPRN)

- 20 clinics across WWAMI region



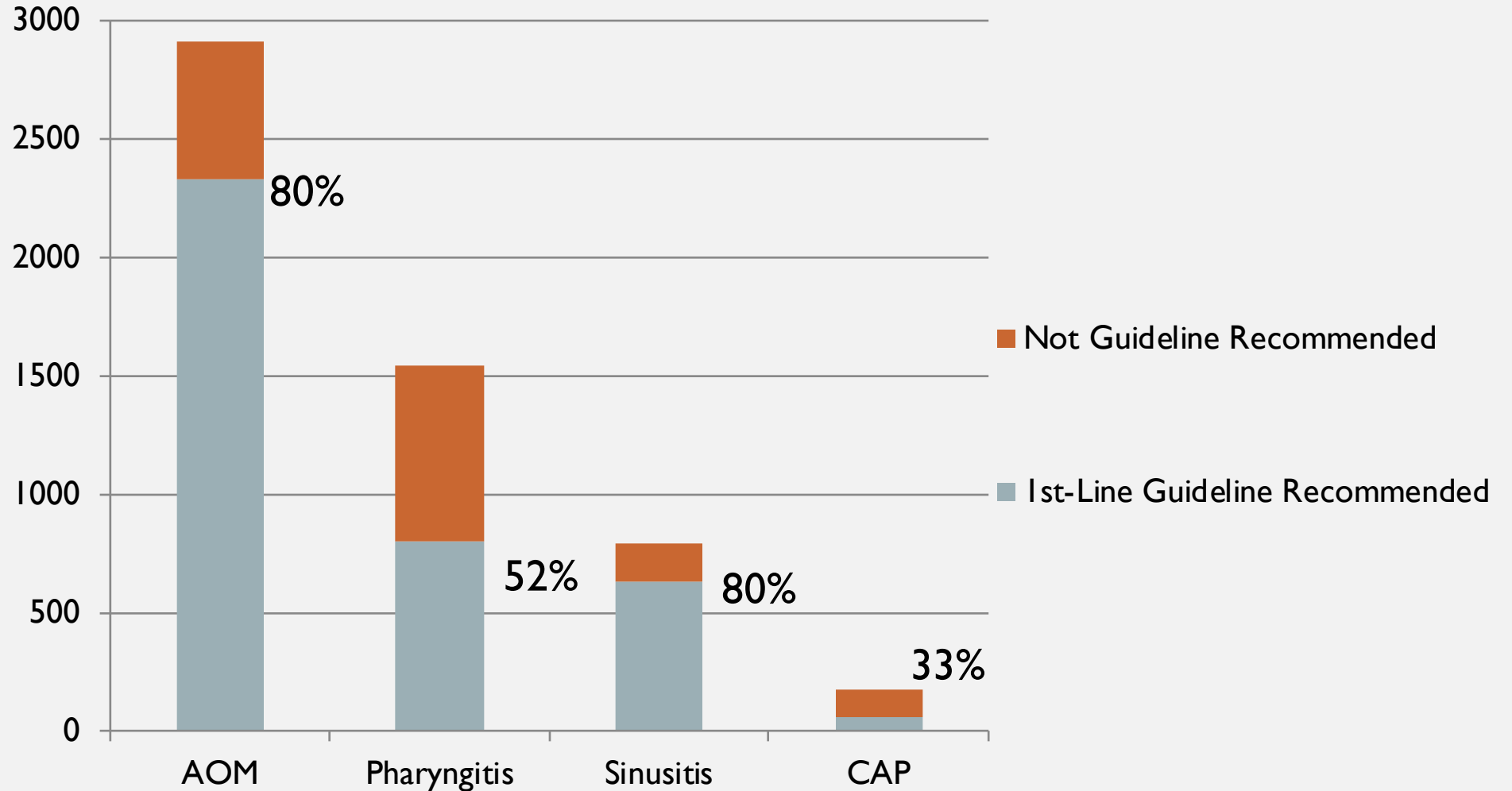
Characteristic	Patient Visits, N	Visits Prescribed an Antibiotic, N	Broad Spectrum Antibiotics, N (% of abx)	Antibiotics Rx “Not Indicated” N (% of abx)
<b>Total</b>	<b>97,228</b>	<b>10,922 (11)</b>	<b>5821 (53)</b>	<b>4,250 (40)</b>

# ANTIBIOTIC PRESCRIBING BY RESPIRATORY ILLNESS WHEN ANTIBIOTICS MAY BE INDICATED



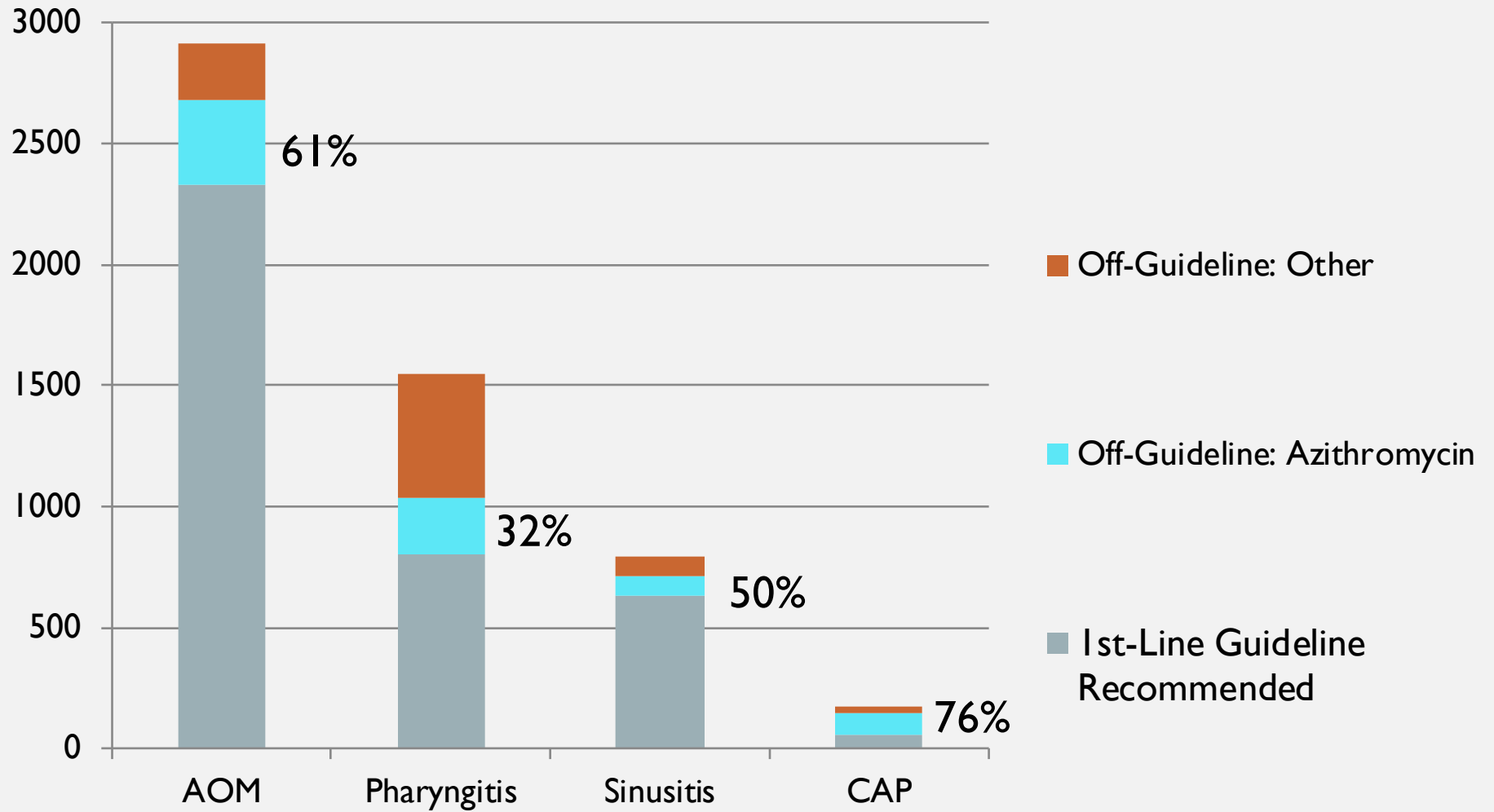
# FIRST-LINE GUIDELINE RECOMMENDED ANTIBIOTICS

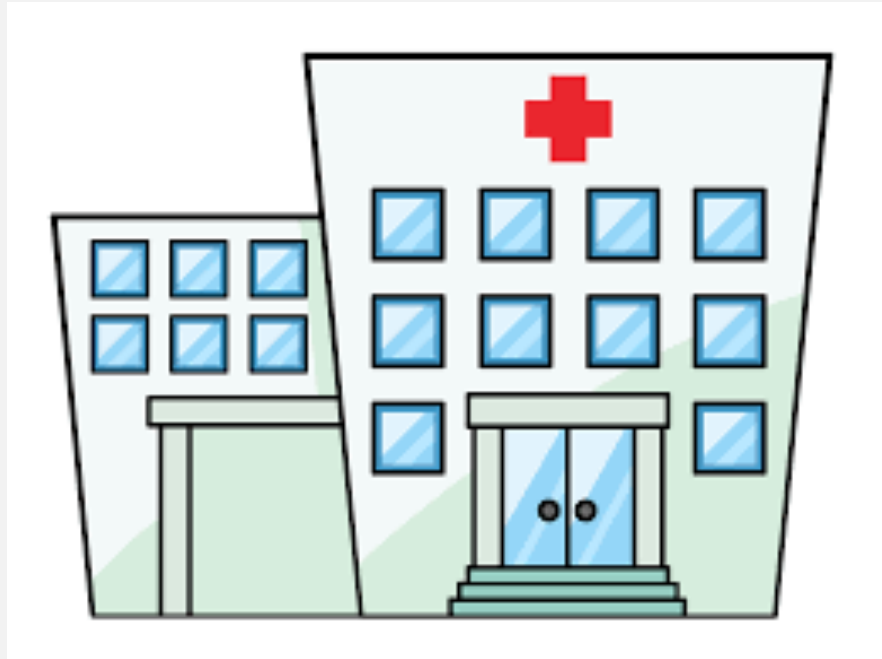
Number of  
antibiotics  
prescribed



# OFF-GUIDELINE RECOMMENDED ANTIBIOTICS

Number of antibiotics prescribed







## Patient Characteristics of visits to the ED by children

Characteristic	Ave annual pediatric visits (million)	Ave pediatric visits with antibiotic, %	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>23%</b>

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Insurance Status	Private	8.7	20%
	Non-private	18.8	25%
Region	Urban	24.7	27%
	Rural	5.0	23%

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Region	Urban	24.7	27%
	Rural	5.0	23%
Provider Type	Physician	23.7	23%
	NP/PA	5.3	26%
Type of ED	General	25.1	24%
	Pediatric	4.1	20%

## Factors associated with Guideline Associated Antibiotic Use

Characteristic		Pediatric ED visits a/w GCAU, % antibiotic visits	AOR (CI)
Age (years)	<1	80%	1.00
	1-4	80%	1.07 (0.68-1.70)
	5-12	78%	1.11 (0.68-1.70)
	13-17	72%	0.92 (0.49-1.72)
Gender	Male	78%	1.00
	Female	78%	1.01 (0.78-1.30)

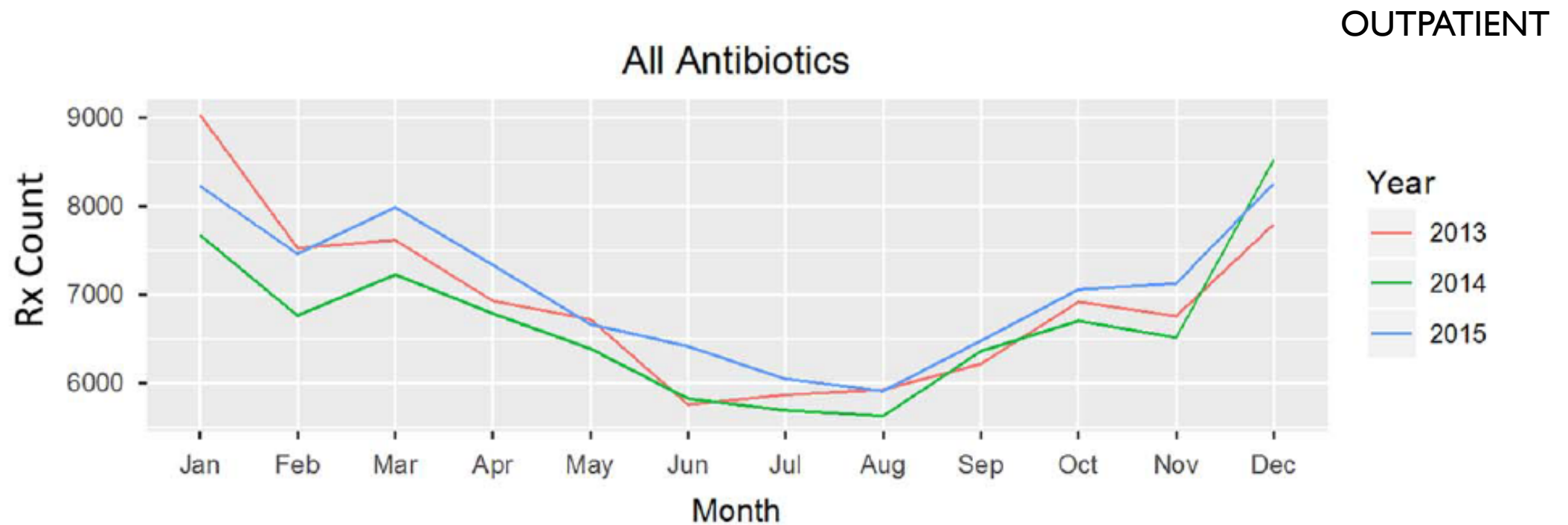
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Gender	Male	78%	1.00
	Female	78%	1.01 (0.78-1.30)
Race	White	76%	1.00
	Black	81%	1.56 (1.15-2.11)
	Other		
Insurance Status	Private	75%	1.00
	Non-private	79%	1.32 (0.99-1.76)

## Factors associated with Guideline Concordant Antibiotic Use

Characteristic		Pediatric ED visits a/w GCAU (% antibiotic visits)	AOR (CI)
US Census Region	Northeast	86%	1.00
	Midwest	78%	0.51 (0.34-0.77)
	South	76%	0.46 (0.32-0.67)
	West	77%	0.55 (0.35-0.87)
Region	Urban	71%	1.00
	Rural	79%	1.26 (0.99-1.60)
Type of ED	General	77%	1.00
	Pediatric	87%	2.01 (1.38-2.92)
NP/PA at visit?	No	78%	1.00
	Yes	79%	1.08 (0.84-1.39)
Diagnosis	Suppurative OM	81%	1.00
	Sinusitis	70%	0.51 (0.32-0.82)
	Pharyngitis	74%	0.72 (0.53-0.96)

# ANTIBIOTIC USE IS NOT DECREASING





# The Core Elements of Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship



## **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.



# QUICK LOOK: GUIDELINES

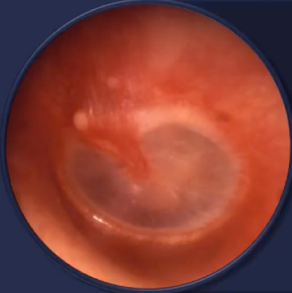
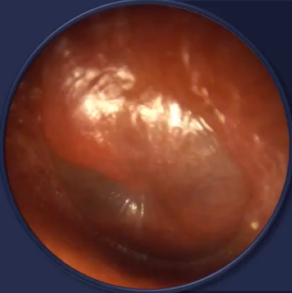
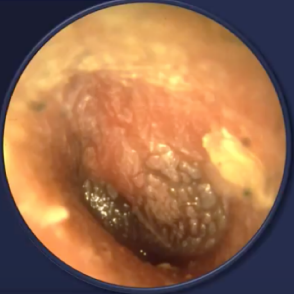

Quick reference on CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/community/for-hcp/outpatient-hcp/pediatric-treatment-rec.html>

Dx	Path	Diagnostic Findings	Management	Common Questions	Comments by Nicole
AOM	Viral! S.pna	Must examine TM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Watchful waiting</b></li><li>• <b>Amoxicillin</b></li><li>• Amox/Clav: conjunctivitis or amox within 30d</li></ul>	Delayed prescribing?	Azithromycin is never appropriate

# ACUTE OTITIS MEDIA

**VIRAL**



	<b>Erythema</b> Nonspecific		<b>Bulging membrane</b> Most specific finding
<b>Bulging and Opaque</b> High predictive value		<b>Air bullae</b> Bullous Myringitis	

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**TABLE 2 Patient Outcomes by Group**

Characteristic Group	OT, <i>n</i> (%) <sup>a</sup>	OT+P, <i>n</i> (%) <sup>a</sup>	<i>P</i>
Used antibiotics or saw another physician within 3 d of PED visit	13 (13)	40 (38)	<.01
Ever used antibiotics between PED visit and follow-up call	19 (19)	49 (46)	<.01
Days of otalgia after PED visit			.29
0	31 (532)	41 (39)	
1	18 (18)	20 (19)	
2	20 (20)	18 (17)	
3	18 (18)	13 (12)	
>4	11 (11)	13 (12)	
Days of fever after PED visit			.03
0	69 (70)	60 (57)	
1	9 (9)	10 (10)	
2	12 (12)	17 (16)	
3	6 (6)	9 (9)	
>4	2 (2)	9 (9)	
Used medications after PED visit for pain or fever	94 (94)	95 (90)	.26

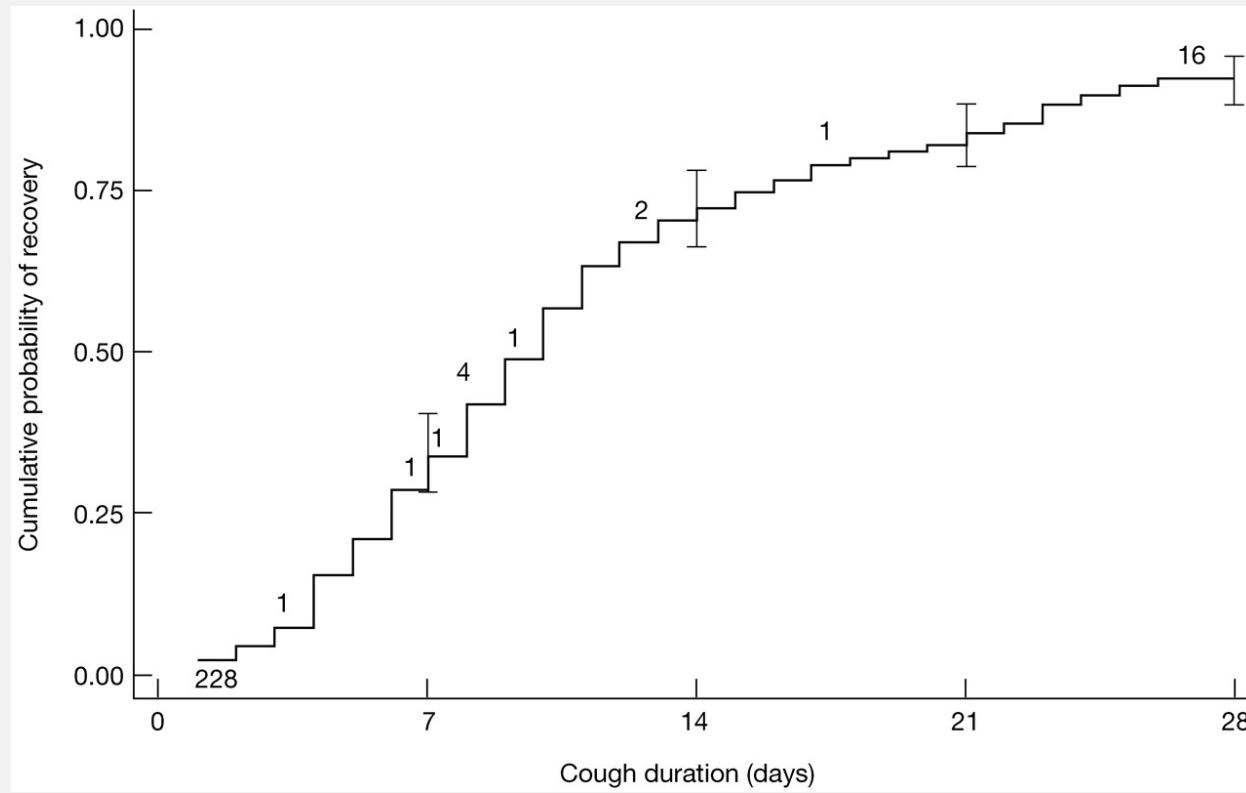
<sup>a</sup> Denominators differ slightly because of missing data.

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Sinusitis	Viral!	<p>Persistent/worsening symptoms, nasal discharge, cough &gt; 10d</p> <p>Worsening or new onset fever/symptoms after initial improvement</p> <p>Fever <math>\geq 39^{\circ}\text{C}</math>, purulent nasal discharge for at least 3 consecutive days.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Watchful waiting</b></li> <li>• <b>Amoxicillin</b></li> <li>• Amox/Clav if not improving</li> </ul>		WAY less common than diagnosis rates

# COUGH DURATION



# SYMPTOM DURATION

*Duration of the six symptoms (days) calculated using survival analysis*

	<b>Cough</b>	<b>Short of breath</b>	<b>Sleeplessness</b>	<b>Reduced activity</b>	<b>Unwell</b>	<b>Fever</b>
Proportion resolved	Symptom duration in days <sup>a</sup> (95% CI)					
0.25	6 (5–7)	3 (3–4)	4 (3–5)	3 (3–4)	4 (3–4)	2 (2–3)
0.50	10 (9–10)	6 (5–7)	7 (6–9)	6 (5–7)	6 (5–7)	5 (4–6)
0.75	16 (13–19)	11 (9–14)	12 (11–15)	12 (9–15)	11 (9–14)	10 (7–12)
0.90	25 (23 <sup>b</sup> )	21 (17 <sup>b</sup> )	22 (18–25)	20 (17–22)	18 (15–25)	15 (13–19)

## QUICK LOOK: GUIDELINES

Dx	Path	Diagnostic Findings	Management	Common Questions	Comments by Nicole
Pharyngitis	Viral! GAS (~25%)	OP exam does not distinguish bacterial  Fever, severe sore throat, lack of viral sx, LAD	PCN Amoxicillin	Rapid strep when no viral sx (cough, etc)	Rare in <3yo  Carriers ~20%

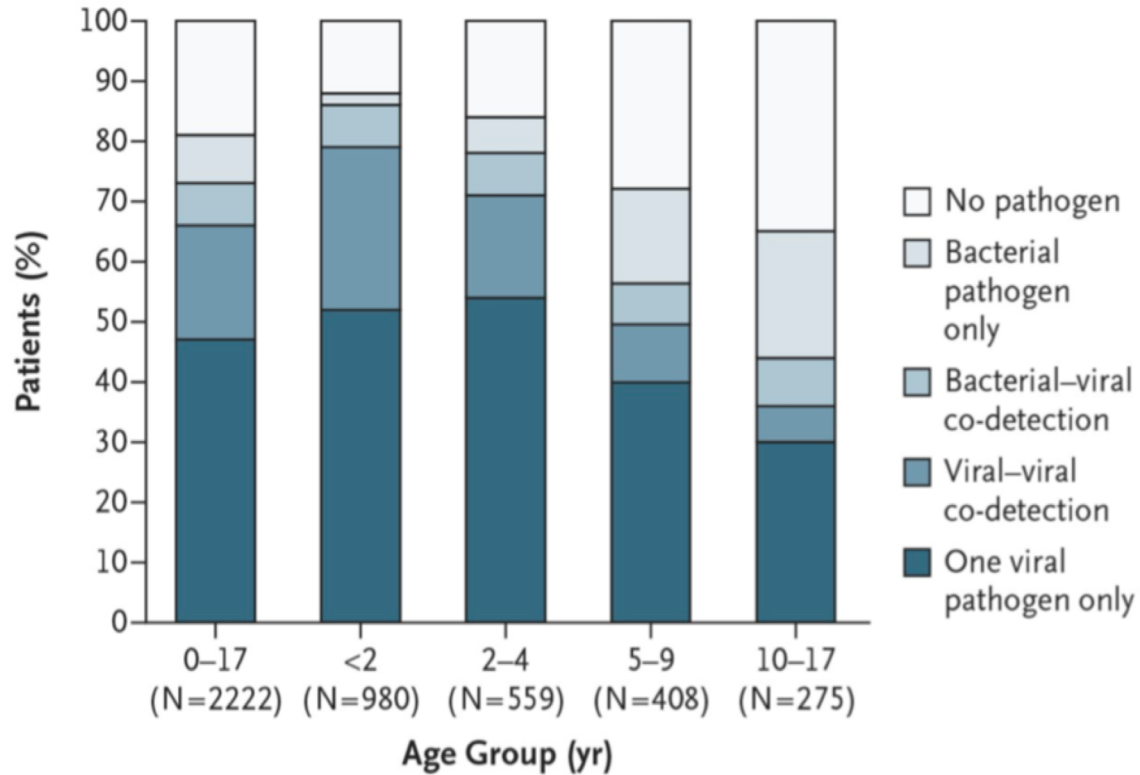
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Bronchiolitis	Viral! RSV RV HMPV Parainfl	Wheeze, increased WOB, viral symptoms,	Oxygen, hydration	Bacterial pna too??? What's this schmutz on the CXR???	No routine CXRs  Bacterial co- infection <5%

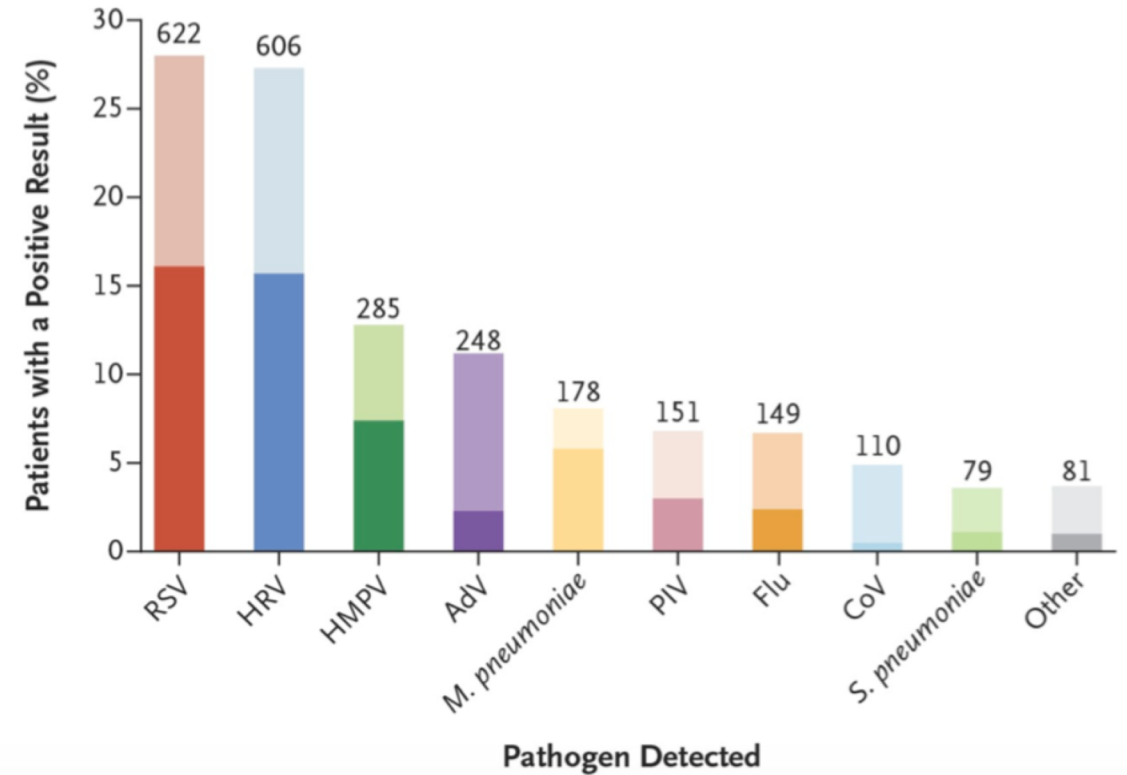


# FEAR OF “MISSING SOMETHING”

**A** Detection of Bacterial and Viral Pathogens



**B** Specific Pathogens Detected



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Bacterial CAP	S. pna M. pna (less common) S. aureus GAS	Focal exam Fever/symptoms worse after improvement	<b>Amoxicillin</b> Amox + Azithro	Atypical pna?	Atypical pna <2% of <5yo  M. pna carriage is high  Azithro monotox not guideline rec



NDC 59762-3060-1  
1 Card x 6 Tablets

GREENSTONE BRAND

azithromycin  
tablets

250 mg\*

Rx only

A full course  
of antibiotic  
therapy in  
5 daily doses

Distributed by:  
Greenstone LLC  
Peapack, NJ 07977

GREENSTONE

Your first  
day's dose

Take together

Take these 2 tablets  
as your first dose of  
azithromycin.  
Then take 1 tablet each  
day for the next 4 days.

To remove tablets, press from this side.

Azithromycin  
keeps on  
working!  
Days 6-10

Day 2

Day 3

Day 4

Day 5

NEXT WEEK

Stewardship tools

Challenges being a steward with pediatric ARTI



# CHALLENGES IN THE TREATMENT OF ARTI IN CHILDREN

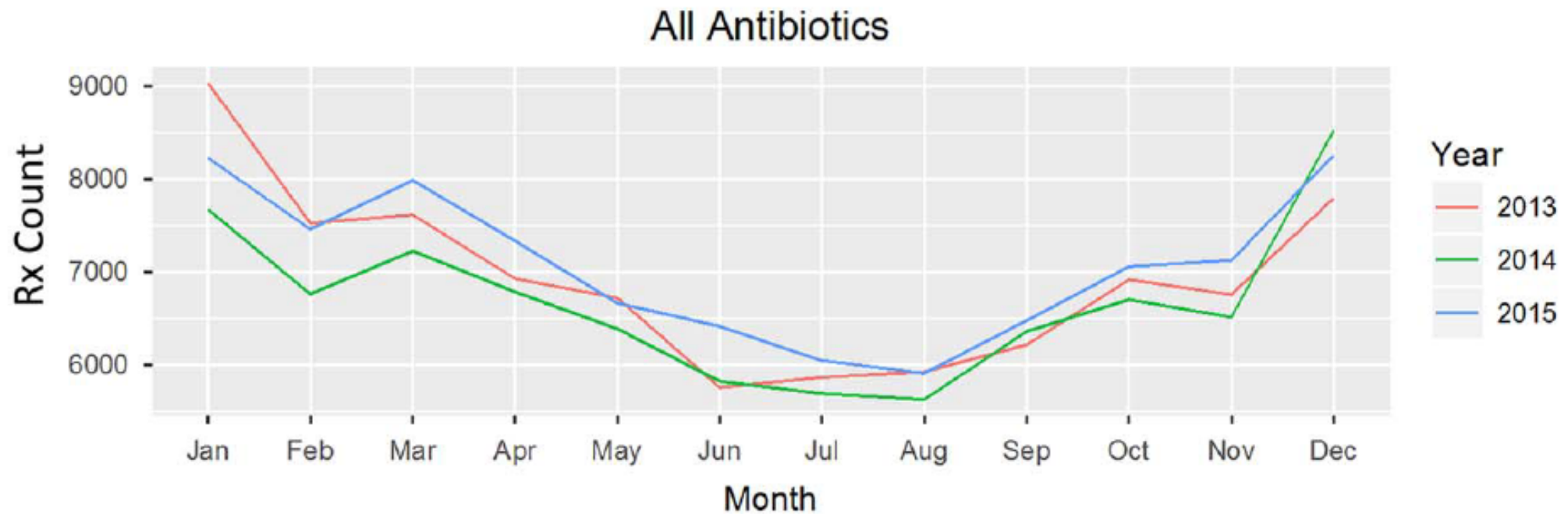
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# ANTIBIOTIC USE IS NOT DECREASING



# Stewardship Tools

Delayed Prescribing

Audit and Feedback

Decision Support

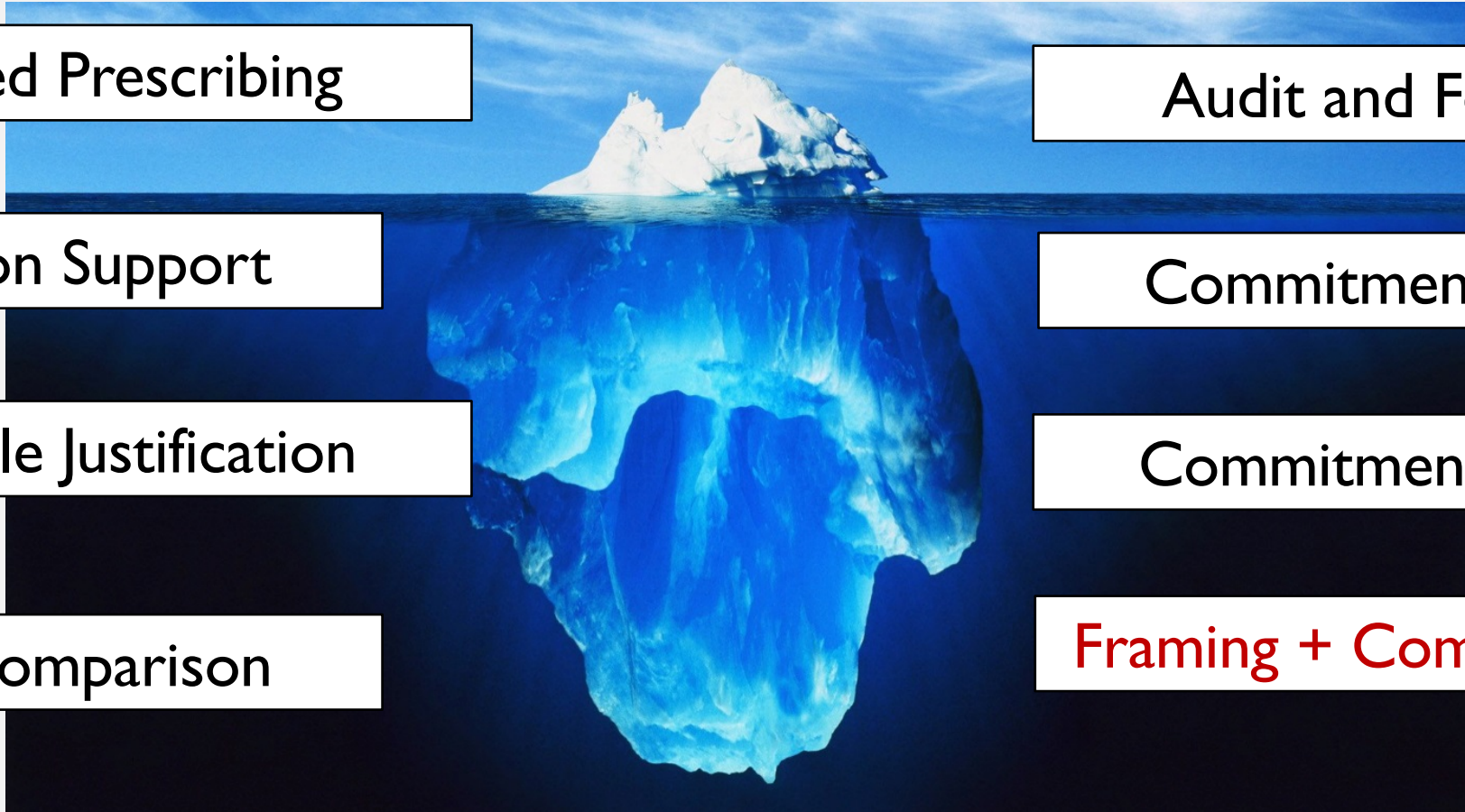
Commitment Posters

Accountable Justification

Commitment Posters

Peer Comparison

**Framing + Communication**



# CLINICIAN IDENTIFIED BARRIERS

Effective communication between parents and clinicians

More accurate  
perception of  
expectations

Parent Pressure

Higher satisfaction  
scores

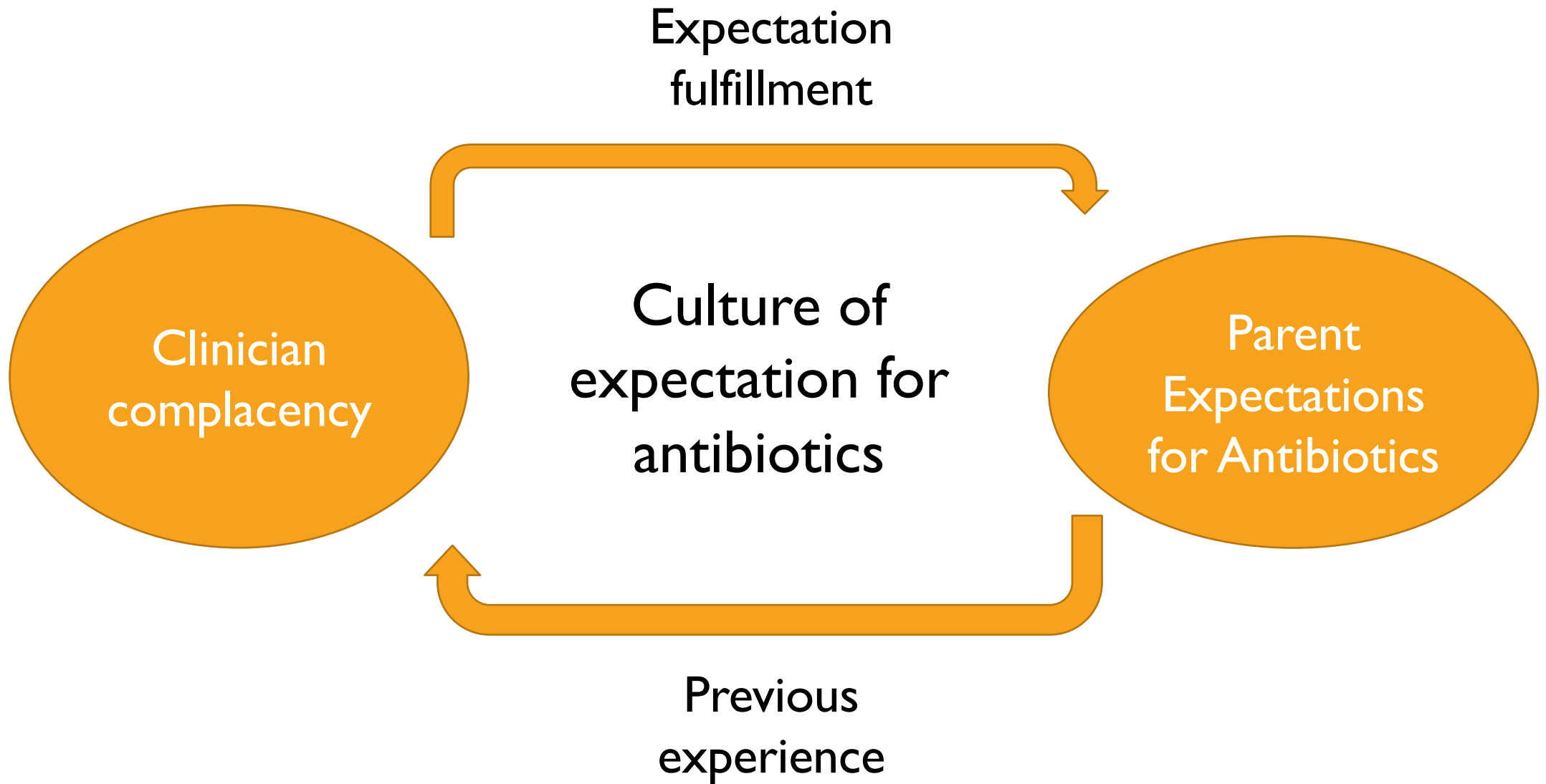
Parent  
Satisfaction

More efficient  
clinic visits

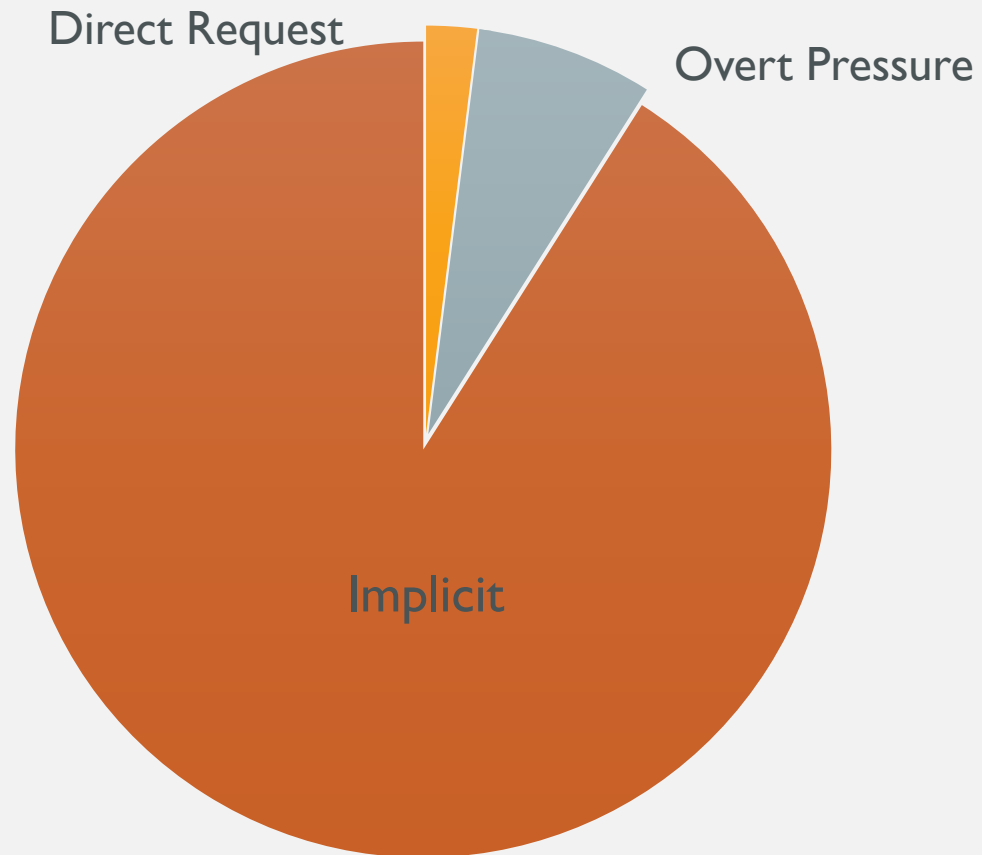
Time  
Constraints

More judicious antibiotic prescribing





# COMMUNICATION ABOUT ANTIBIOTIC EXPECTATIONS



## WHEN PARENTS EXPECT ANTIBIOTICS:

### 1. Implicit communication styles:

- ‘Candidate diagnosis’: parents declare the child's diagnosis
  - Explicitly: “He has [bronchitis](#).”
  - Implicitly: “The next door neighbor has [strep throat](#).”
  - Looking for confirmation of diagnosis

### 2. Resist diagnoses that seem less severe

### 3. Question ‘no treatment’ plan

# Clinician Perceptions Drive Prescribing

- Clinician perceptions of parental expectations for antibiotics drive inappropriate antibiotic prescribing

	Predicting Inappropriate Antibiotic Prescribing (Odds ratio)	Predicting Assignment of a Bacterial Diagnosis (Odds ratio)
• A 13. Parent expectations for receiving antimicrobials	1.39 (.32, 6.05)	1.51 (.47, 2.84)
• C 14. Parent attitudes toward prescribing	1.06 (.99, 1.13)	0.98 (.94, 1.02)
ti 15. Physician perceptions of parental expectations for antimicrobials	23.3 (3.51, 154.65)*	5.25 (1.75, 15.73)*

## CLINICIAN-PARENT MISUNDERSTANDINGS

- If a parent mentions an antibiotic, clinicians are 4x more likely to think the parent expects an antibiotic.
- Parents expect:
  - Diagnosis
  - Reassurance that symptoms do not indicate a serious condition
  - Strategies for symptom resolution

## PARENT– CLINICIAN MISUNDERSTANDINGS

### Assess severity of Illness

- Misunderstandings about severity of illness in bacterial versus viral diagnoses

### Explain Symptoms

- Symptoms or diagnoses that warrant antibiotics

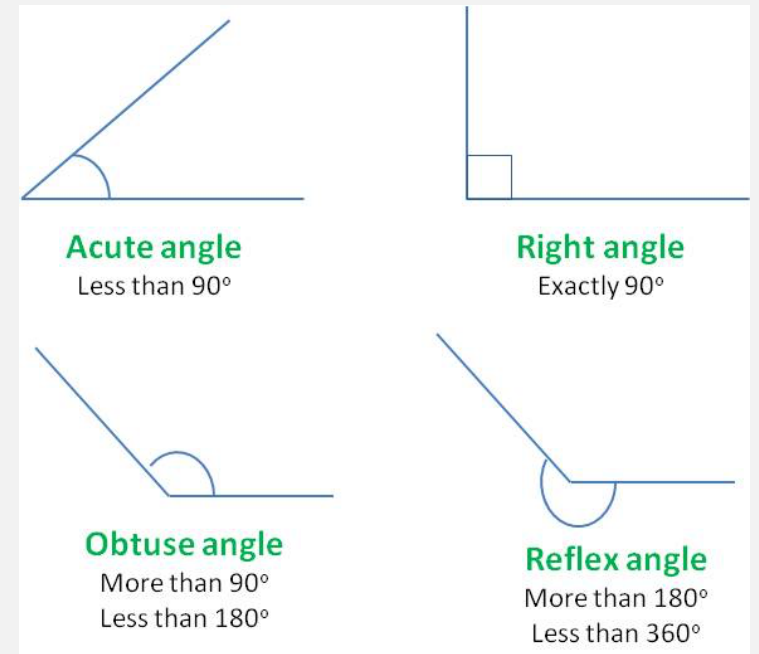
### Help Alleviate Symptoms

- Therapeutic role of antibiotics

### Provide Counsel

- Symptoms that indicate complications

# ASSESS SEVERITY OF ILLNESS



\*Elicit the symptoms that parents find concerning and why

## DETAILED PHYSICAL EXAM

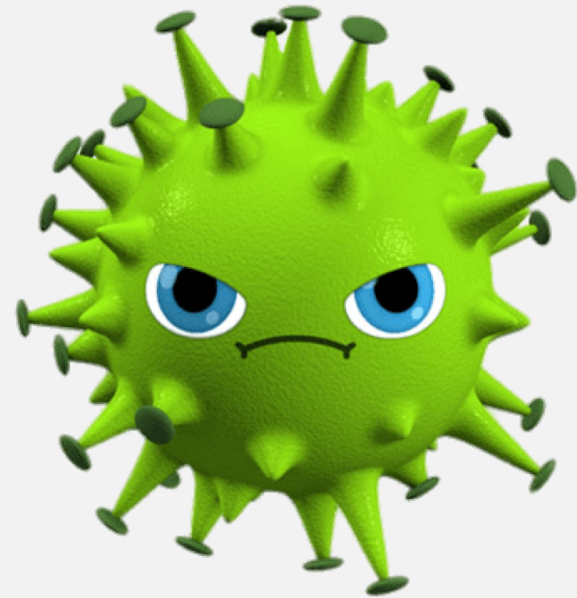
- Helps assess severity of illness and explain symptoms
- Online commentary: Describe PE findings
  - ‘No problem’ commentary: addresses parent concerns and reassures parents that symptoms are not concerning (“Lungs sound all clear.”)
  - ‘Problem’ commentary: identifies abnormal findings with concerning language (“This ear is quite red.”)
- ‘Problem’ online commentary
  - Increased parent questioning of a non-antibiotic treatment plan
  - Associated with inappropriate antibiotic prescribing



## EXPLAIN SYMPTOMS

- Parents trust their doctors
- Parents know antibiotics don't treat viruses

**BUT: What is virus??**



## Box 2—Parents on doctors' diagnosis of viral illness in their child

Extract from group interview

Parent 2: They think they make you feel better saying it's a virus...but they make you feel worse

Parent 7: When they say it's a virus, I mean what kind of virus? Just where does it come from? Parent 1: You're none the wiser how they got it, what you can do, how long it will go on...

Parent 5: You feel you're no further forward...you just have to accept it if they don't explain further, I would like to know...

Parent 2: It's an unknown thing to a doctor, they can't pinpoint it, they don't know really...

Parent 1: I feel a bit annoyed really because you think they've studied for years to learn that and I haven't studied at all, you feel dissatisfied as if you wanted to hear something more...you just wish that everything was clean cut

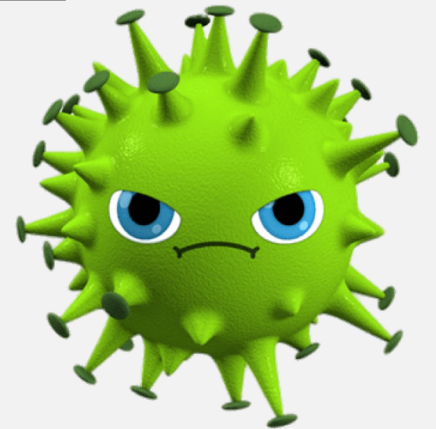
Parent 4: At least if you really knew what it was then it's easier to cope with (Group 3)

## EXPLAIN SYMPTOMS

- Parents trust their doctors
- Parents know antibiotics don't treat viruses

### BUT:

- Parents believe bacterial infections are more serious than viral
- Lack of knowledge: viruses can be severe, bacterial illnesses can be self-limiting.  
\*Discuss these specifics with parents
- Parents believe antibiotics treat more severe illnesses, not that antibiotics treat viruses.  
\*Discuss in context of symptoms they find concerning



## DELIVER A CLEAR DIAGNOSIS

- Specific and clear (e.g., “This is a really bad chest cold”)
- Justify visit for parents
- Explain expectations for this diagnosis \*Duration of symptoms
- Vague explanations appear dismissive
- Virus vs. Bacteria is poorly understood

## HELP ALLEVIATE SYMPTOMS

- Concrete treatment recommendations
- Provide actionable steps
- Negative recommendations
- Positive recommendations

(7) 38-34-05

1 DOC: I think we're in good shape here\_  
2 I don't think he needs  
3 antibiotics, cause (0.5)  
4 it wouldn't work.

15 MOM: [Mm hm,  
16 DOC: -> =so .hh treatment will be:  
17 you know medicine-  
18 that're gonna make her  
19 comfortable and treat her  
20 symptoms. so .hh you c'd  
21 get her medicine that's  
22 gonna make her nose less  
23 stuffy an' °make it° less  
24 runny, an' uh medicine  
25 for thuh cou:gh?,  
26 DOC: .hh An:d=uh you know  
27 something for thuh fever  
28 like (you've)/(we've) been  
29 doing,

## HELP ALLEVIATE SYMPTOMS

- 1,200 children with 800 ARTI seen by 60 pediatricians

<b>Predictor Variable</b>	<b>Adjusted Risk Ratio<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>95% CI</b>	<b>P Value</b>
Communication practices			
Only positive treatment recommendations provided <sup>b</sup>	0.48	0.24-0.95	.04
Only negative treatment recommendations provided <sup>b</sup>	0.18	.02-1.43	.11
Both positive and negative treatment recommendations provided provided <sup>b</sup>	0.15	0.06-0.40	<.001
Contingency plan provided	1.66	0.65-4.23	.29

## HELP ALLEVIATE SYMPTOMS

- Limit parents' ability to question initial 'negative' recommendation
  - Natural transition phrase: “on the one hand, [negative treatment recommendation], but on the other hand [positive treatment recommendation].
  - Language that assumes parental knowledge and rapidly moves to the treatment decision, such as, “as you know, [negative treatment recommendation], but what you can do is [positive treatment recommendation]”.

## PROVIDE COUNSEL AND CONTINGENCY PLAN

- Return precautions need to be specific
  - 1/4 of patients receive
  - Vague information disempowers parent (“If it gets worse.”)
- Establish trust and empower parent – **be specific!**
  - “If he starts using his ribs to breath or has less than 3 diapers/day.”
- Increases parent satisfaction when parents do not receive antibiotics – ensure they can get one later if needed
  - Only 32% of patients receive an antibiotic when the prescription is delayed rather than immediately prescribed.



# COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUES TO USE

**Communication technique**

**Description**

**Examples**

- Elicit parent concerns early
- Recognize parent communication behaviors
- Address concerning symptoms and use specific diagnosis
- Use physical exam
- Use communication techniques for treatment recommendations
- Take time/refine anticipatory guidance
- Use communication techniques when antibiotics are needed too!



## MODULES

Dialogue Around Respiratory Illness Treatment (DART)

<https://www.uwimtr.org/dart/>

- 7 brief (max 5 min) Training Modules on Communication

## REVIEW PAPER

Poole, NM. Judicious antibiotic prescribing in ambulatory pediatrics: Communication is key. Curr Probl Pediatr Adolesc Health Care. 2018 Nov;48(11):306-317. doi: 10.1016/j.cppeds.2018.09.004.