

# Careers in Antimicrobial Stewardship

**IDSA** INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
FOUNDATION

Antimicrobial stewardship is the effort to protect patients by improving the treatment of infections, avoiding the overuse of antibiotics and reducing microbial resistance. Careers in antimicrobial stewardship vary widely, with options ranging from developing an antimicrobial stewardship program within a health system to researching ways to improve prescribing practices.

## Developing a Career in Antimicrobial Stewardship

### Define your career goals

Antimicrobial stewardship offers several career paths in various settings, including:

- Antimicrobial stewardship program development
- Leadership (i.e., medical director, chief or assistant director)
- Tele-antimicrobial stewardship programs
- Adult and/or pediatric care
- Antimicrobial stewardship research
- Academic medical center, community hospital or health system careers in antimicrobial stewardship

### Gain knowledge/skills in antimicrobial stewardship

#### Local

- Reach out to a stewardship director at your institution. If no formal rotations are available, set up a rotation, rotate at another institution or consider other resources through **IDWeek**, SHEA or ECCMID/ESGAP.
- Attend local antimicrobial stewardship committee meetings.
- Attend local pharmacy & therapeutics committee meetings.
- Consider a small quality improvement project and implement, track and monitor an antimicrobial stewardship intervention during your fellowship.
- Get involved with Veterans Affairs programs if your hospital is associated with one.

#### Regional

- Participate in a regional Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative or ECHO project (often through state health departments or hospital associations).

# Careers in Antimicrobial Stewardship

## National

Explore the following antimicrobial stewardship resources and conferences:

- IDWeek Best Practices for Antimicrobial Stewardship Pre-Meeting Workshop ([www.idweek.org](http://www.idweek.org))
- IDSA Core Antimicrobial Stewardship Curriculum ([www.academy.idsociety.org](http://www.academy.idsociety.org))
- SHEA Online Education Center (<https://learningce.shea-online.org>)
- SHEA Primer on Healthcare Epidemiology, Infection Control and Antimicrobial Stewardship ([www.fellowscourse.shea-online.org/Default.aspx](http://www.fellowscourse.shea-online.org/Default.aspx))
- SHEA Spring Conference (<https://sites.wustl.edu/pasc/>)
- PIDS Annual International Pediatric Antimicrobial Stewardship Conference (<https://sites.wustl.edu/pasc/>)
- CDC Antibiotic Stewardship Training Course ([www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/training/continuing-education.html](http://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/training/continuing-education.html))

## International

Explore the following international antimicrobial stewardship resources:

- British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (BSAC) and University of Dundee free 6 week online course - Antimicrobial Stewardship: Managing Antibiotic Resistance ([www.futurelearn.com/courses/antimicrobial-stewardship](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/antimicrobial-stewardship))
- BSAC free 3 week course - Challenges in Antibiotic Resistance: Gram Negative Bacteria ([www.futurelearn.com/courses/gram-negative-bacteria](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/gram-negative-bacteria))

## Obtain mentorship

### Local

- Identify experts in divisions or departments at your institution, including infectious diseases and/or antimicrobial stewardship program doctors and pharmacists.

### Regional

- Network with professionals at a regional Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative (often through state health departments or hospital associations).

### National

- Attend and network at national workshops and conferences, including during **IDWeek**.
- Join the IDSA Emerging Infections Network and its antimicrobial stewardship listserv (<https://ein.idsociety.org/>).

## Careers in **Antimicrobial Stewardship**



### Apply for leadership training seminars

#### Local

- Ask your residency or fellowship director or reach out to your institution's Office of Faculty and Academic Affairs about local seminars.

#### National

- Join the AAMC Leadership Development Seminar for Early and Mid-Career Women Faculty ([www.aamc.org/members/leadership/catalog](http://www.aamc.org/members/leadership/catalog)).

### Disseminate your scholarly education work

#### Local

- Reach out to your local health department for collaborations and webinars.

#### Regional

- Network with your regional American College of Physicians chapter.

#### National

- Identify opportunities to share your work during **IDWeek**, at ASM Microbe and throughout other conferences.

#### International

- Connect with specialists around the world and find opportunities to share your work during the European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases ([www.eccmid.org](http://www.eccmid.org)).
- Attend the Society of Critical Care Medicine Congress ([www.sccm.org/Annual-Congress](http://www.sccm.org/Annual-Congress)).

### Document your impact for promotion

- Create an Antimicrobial Stewardship Director's portfolio.
- Measure your interventions, document results, meet with department heads at your institution and report on findings.
- Attend and present at grand rounds.
- Publish your outcomes.
- Volunteer for IDSA and SHEA committees related to antimicrobial resistance, stewardship, research, education and guidelines.