**NSHA ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP**

**5 MINUTE UPDATE**

http://www.cdha.nshealth.ca/nsha-antimicrobial-stewardship

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<th>4 Moments of Antibiotic Prescribing</th>
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### 4 Moments of Antibiotic Prescribing

1. **Does this patient have an infection that requires antibiotics?**
   - Non-infectious?
   - Viral?

2. **Have I ordered appropriate cultures before antibiotics?**
   - Cultures
     - Avoid urine cultures for foul smelling/discolored urine
     - 2 sets of blood cultures
     - Wound swabs often contaminated

3. **What empiric antibiotic therapy?**
   - Empiric antibiotics
     - Prior antibiotics?
     - Prior infection/colonization?
     - Community or hospital acquired?
     - Consult antibiogram & guidelines

4. **A day or more has passed. Can I optimize antibiotics?**
   - Daily Timeouts
     - Can I STOP antibiotics?
     - Can I NARROW?
     - Can I change to ORAL?
   - Document antibiotic plan

5. **What duration of antibiotic therapy is needed for this patient’s diagnosis?**
   - Minimize treatment duration
   - Do not unnecessarily prolong on discharge or other transitions of care

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Nova Scotia Health Authority
Antimicrobial Stewardship Program