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EVALUATION OF OBSTACLES TO IMPLEMENTING
ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP GUIDELINES (A1),
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Antimicrobials are important medications with specific target organisms. As resistance progresses and antibiotic development continues to decline, the antimicrobial agents already in existence will become increasingly less valuable if precautions are not taken to maintain their efficacy. Several documents support the creation of an antimicrobial stewardship team (AST) to increase proper use of these agents in all hospitals. Several barriers, however, may arise when attempting to follow these guidelines. This study will examine the effects, both clinical and relational, of novel antimicrobial restriction in a 400-bed community hospital. The information gained will help identify practical methods for developing a pharmacist position on an AST. The outcomes will reflect the successes and failures in the process of AST implementation, employing a linezolid “criteria for use” order form as a model. Methods: The study initially called for a comparison of the appropriateness of use of linezolid pre- and post-restriction. When barriers were encountered, the launch of the use of the order form was delayed. Many additional steps had to be taken to gain support for the order form and an antimicrobial stewardship pharmacist. Prescriber-pharmacist interactions and additional resources used during the approval process were tracked and

analyzed. Results will be discussed including barriers identified and practical ways that future AST members can overcome obstacles to initiating the recommendations of current guidelines.