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IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM, Ripal Jariwala, Scott Mambourg, Mike Stander. VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System, Reno, NV (ripal.jariwala@va.gov).

Antimicrobial stewardship programs focus on optimizing antimicrobial prescribing to improve patient care through appropriate therapeutic selection, decrease in length of stay, reduced hospital costs, and minimized antimicrobial resistance. Important components of stewardship programs include appropriate prescribing guidance, trigger drug evaluation, IV to PO conversion, and de escalation. Infectious disease physicians and, specifically, clinical pharmacists are at the cornerstone of any successful stewardship program playing a significant role in pharmacokinetics, de escalation of therapy, identifying patients who are eligible for IV to oral conversion, and following prescribing guidelines. The objective of this project was to engineer an antibiotic stewardship program at VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System based on successful strategies used at programs such as Renown and UCSF. Instrumental steps included identifying a physician champion; schedule coordination with multi disciplinary members; implementation of a pharmacy antibiotic review program; introduction of computer guided prescribing that is sensitive to resistance issues, performance measures, and formulary status; and education of hospital staff. Future assessment will include data collection on length of stay, readmission rates, mortality, resistance issues, and cost. A descriptive

analysis of the implementation of the stewardship program
and tools will be shared.