Antibiotics and patients SPARED
If we improve antibiotic prescribing patients will be SPARED from HCAIs and antibiotics will be saved for a new ERA.

**Samples**
Have you sent relevant SAMPLES for microbiology tests before starting antibiotics? Have you checked previous microbiology results?

**Policy**
Have you followed the trust’s antibiotic POLICY or looked at specialist directorate guidelines? If you deviate from recommendations, document why in the notes.

**Allergy**
Are you considering drug ALLERGIES whilst prescribing antibiotics? NB: Co-amoxiclav (Augmentin®) and piperacillin / tazobactam (Tazocin®) are penicillins.

**Reason**
Have you documented the REASON / INDICATION for antibiotics in the notes and on the drug chart?

**End date**
Have you specified an END / STOP DATE for antibiotic courses in the notes and on the drug chart? If not, write a REVIEW DATE.

**Daily review**
Review antibiotic courses DAILY to check: 1) they are still needed; 2) whether IVs can switch to oral; 3) if microbiology results are available; and 4) whether the antibiotic should change.

Debbie Lockwood,
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