

# AHRQ Safety Program for Improving Antibiotic Use



## Completion Guide for the Team Antibiotic Review Form

Questions 1–6 should be answered for all patients on antibiotics that you evaluate.

### Question 1. Day of antibiotic therapy:

For the antibiotic or antibiotic regimen you are evaluating, day 1 is the first day that any antibiotic was started, day 2 is the second day, and so forth.

### Question 2. Antibiotic regimen and indication:

Include all antibiotics that the patient is receiving.

### Question 3. Based on your assessment at the time you are reviewing the case:

- If the patient has a suspected or confirmed infection that requires antibiotics, “Yes” should be marked. If there is disagreement among providers regarding the presence of infection, choose “Yes.”
- If the patient does not have evidence of infection, “No” should be marked.

### Question 4. Based on your assessment at the time you are reviewing the case:

- If the patient was suspected to have an infection for which cultures should have been collected before antibiotics were started and all of those cultures were collected, “Yes” should be marked.
- If the patient was suspected to have an infection for which cultures should have been collected before antibiotics were started and all of those cultures were not collected, “No” should be marked.
- If a patient had some but not all of the cultures collected, “No” should be marked (e.g., a patient with suspected urosepsis who had blood cultures but not urine cultures collected would be marked “No”).
- If the patient was suspected to have an infection for which cultures were not indicated, “N/A” should be marked.

### Question 5. Based on your assessment at the time you are reviewing the case:

- If the patient has no antibiotic allergies, “N/A” should be marked.
- If the patient has antibiotic allergies and there is evidence in the chart that the specific antibiotic and associated reaction has been documented, “Yes” should be marked.
- If the patient has a reported antibiotic allergy but the specific antibiotic was not recorded or the associated reaction was not documented, “No” should be marked.

### Question 6. Based on the initial assessment of the patient and the suspected source of infection:

- If the empiric antibiotic or antibiotics were compliant with local guidelines, “Yes” should be marked.
- If one or more of the empiric antibiotics were not compliant with local guidelines, “No” should be marked.
- If there are no local guidelines for the suspected infection, “N/A” should be marked.



**Questions 7–14 should be answered for patients on antibiotics > 24 hours in addition to questions 1-6 above.**

**Question 7. Based on your assessment at the time you are reviewing the case:**

- If the patient has a suspected or confirmed infection that requires antibiotics, regardless of whether the regimen itself is appropriate, “Yes” should be marked.
- If the patient was found to have an alternate reason for the presenting symptoms and/or has no need for continued antibiotic therapy (e.g., the course of therapy is complete), “No” should be marked.

**Question 8. Answer Question 8 ONLY if Question 7 is marked “no.”**

- If a plan is formulated to stop antibiotics today, “Yes” should be marked.
- If there is no plan to stop antibiotics today, “No” should be marked.

**Question 9. Based on your assessment at the time you are reviewing the case:**

- If the patient can be placed on a narrower regimen based on microbiological or clinical data (this could involve a complete change in antibiotic regimen or stopping one or more agents in a multi-agent regimen), “Yes” should be marked.
- If the patient cannot be placed on a narrower regimen, “No” should be marked. If you cannot narrow antibiotics because microbiology data are not yet available, then choose “No”.
- If the patient is already placed on a narrower regimen at the time of review, “Already narrowed” should be marked.
- If you cannot narrow antibiotics because microbiology data are not yet available, “No” should be marked.

**Question 10. Answer Question 10 ONLY if Question 9 is marked “Yes.”**

- If a plan is formulated to narrow antibiotics today, “Yes” should be marked.
- If there is no plan to narrow antibiotics today, “No” should be marked.

**Question 11. Based on your assessment at the time you are reviewing the case:**

- If the patient can be placed on an oral regimen based on microbiological or clinical data, “Yes” should be marked.
- If the patient cannot be placed on an oral regimen, “No” should be marked.
- If the patient is already on an oral regimen at the time of review, “Already on PO” should be marked.

**Question 12. Answer Question 12 ONLY if Question 11 is marked “Yes.”**

- If you plan to change to oral antibiotics today, “Yes” should be marked.
- If there is no plan to change to oral antibiotics today, “No” should be marked.

**Question 13. Based on your assessment at the time you are reviewing the case:**

- If a planned duration of therapy has been documented in the chart or there is documentation that the duration is uncertain because not all clinical data are available to make the decision, “Yes” should be marked.
- If there is no comment about duration of therapy, “No” should be marked.

**Question 14. Answer Question 14 ONLY if Question 13 is marked “Yes.”**

- If the planned duration is consistent with local guidelines, “Yes” should be marked.
- If the planned duration is not consistent with local guidelines, “No” should be marked.
- If there are no local guidelines for duration of therapy for the suspected infection, “N/A” should be marked.