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Swissnoso, Sulgeneckstrasse 35, 3007 Bern

Responsible of ASP activities

(forwarded from the director of the hospital)

Star-3 Steering group members:

Swissnoso:

PD Dr. L. Senn (president of the Steering group) and Prof. Dr. S. Tschudin-Sutter

Swiss Society for Infectiology (SSI):

Prof. Dr. S. Kuster and PD Dr. L. Elzi

Swiss Society for Hospital Hygiene (SSHH):

Prof. Dr. W. Zingg and Dr. C. Pluess-Suard

Swiss Society for Microbiology (SSM):

Prof. Dr. A. Egli and Dr. L. Müller

Swiss Association of Public Health Administration and Hospital Pharmacists (GSASA):

Dr. V. Jordan and Dr. D. Halbeisen

ANRESIS:

Prof. Dr. A. Kronenberg and

Dr. C. Pluess-Suard

FMH:

Dr. med. C. Quinto and

Dr. med. Philippe Eggimann

Pediatric Infectious Disease Group of Switzerland (PIGS), associated partner.

PD Dr. Julia Bielicki

Berne, end of October 2024

StAR-3 Implementing ASP in Swiss Hospitals – Survey of antimicrobial stewardship activities in hospitals

Dear colleague

The StAR-3 consortium¹ launched the project «StAR-3: Implementing Antimicrobial Stewardship in Swiss Hospitals»² and already published a handbook ([German](#), [French](#)) to support hospitals in implementing a basic Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP). A second handbook edition featuring a comprehensive collection of implementation aids will be published in 2026. StAR-3 is supported by the FOPH and H+ Die Spitäler der Schweiz and the Swiss conference of the Cantonal Ministers of Public Health (GDK-CDS) are involved as observers.

In addition to the handbook, the project establishes a national monitoring system for antimicrobial stewardship activities. It will inform about the status quo of antimicrobial stewardship activities in Swiss hospitals and demonstrate the progress over the next few years. A first monitoring report will be published at the beginning of 2025. It will help the authorities, stakeholders, and hospitals direct their antimicrobial initiatives and improve the dissemination of ASP.

It is the pleasure of the StAR-3 consortium to invite your hospital to complete the online questionnaire. This might take half an hour to 1 hour of your time. Find the link to the [online questionnaire](#). A PDF copy of the questionnaire is attached to the mail.

The questionnaire addresses the organisational structure of the local antimicrobial activities, surveillance activities, the existence and accessibility of antibiotic treatment guidelines, education and training activities, audits and feedback to prescribers, IT support, and report activities (a.o.).

Participation is voluntary. Your hospital's data will be treated confidentially: The results will be presented in aggregated form and will not allow any conclusions to be drawn about individual hospitals.

We kindly ask you to complete the online questionnaire by **29th November 2024**. We very much appreciate getting data about antibiotic stewardship activities in your hospital. We thank you in advance for the

¹ Swissnoso and the six partner organizations SSI, SSHH, GSASA, SSM, ANRESIS, FMH, and the associated partner PIGS.

² For more information see the [webpage of StAR-3](#) on the Swissnoso website.



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contribution of your hospital and will be happy to share with you the report in spring 2025, as a thank you for your participation.

If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact us (marcus.eder@swissnoso.ch or vinciane.vouets@swissnoso.ch).

Kindly yours,

Vinciane Vouets,
Project Manager of StAR-3

Marcus Eder, MD
Scientific collaborator

Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Berne, in October 2024

StAR-3 Implementing ASP in Swiss Hospitals – Survey of antimicrobial stewardship activities in hospitals

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Kindly yours,

Vinciane Vouets
Project manager StAR-3

Marcus Eder, MD
Scientific collaborator

Template – please submit information using the web-based questionnaire

Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 1 Hospital information

* 1. Information on your hospital

Name of the hospital:

Postal code / place:

Canton:

2. What is the hospital type?

- University Hospital
- Other higher level care hospitals (non-university hospitals)
- Primary care hospital (Grundversorgung / Hôpital pour les soins de base)
- Specialised clinic (Spezialklinik / Clinique spécialisée)
- Other

* 3. Is your hospital part of a hospital group?

- Yes
- No

Part 1 Hospital information

* 4. To which site does the subsequent information refer?

- To the hospital group
- To the specified site only

* 5. Does your hospital provide an infectious disease consult service?

- Yes, ID team / ID specialist present at the hospital site / within the hospital group
- Yes, ID advice available via contract with another hospital
- Yes, other
- No

Part 1 Hospital information

6. What is the availability of the infectious disease consult service?

- Fulltime, including on-call at night and on weekends (24/7)
- Fulltime during regular working days and hours
- Less

7. Does your hospital have a clinical microbiology consult service?

The clinical microbiologists work directly with healthcare professionals to optimize testing and interpreting results of individual patients.

- Yes, microbiologist consult service present at the hospital site / within the hospital group (hospital site lab/ group lab)
- Yes, microbiological advice available via contract with another hospital or third-party lab
- Yes, other
- No

8. Does your hospital have a clinical pharmacy consult service?

The clinical pharmacists work directly with healthcare professionals to optimize antimicrobial therapy of individual patients.

- Yes, clinical pharmacy consult service present at the hospital site / within hospital group
- Yes, clinical pharmacy advice available via contract with another hospital
- Yes, other
- No

9. What type of medical records does your hospital use?

- Paper-based only
- Paper-based and electronic records
- Electronic records only

10. How are antibiotics prescribed?

- Paper-based only
- Paper-based and electronic records
- Electronic records only

Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 2 Antimicrobial Stewardship: structures

* 11. Does your hospital have a formal **antimicrobial stewardship program** to ensure appropriate antibiotic use for inpatient care?

A formal antimicrobial stewardship program is a hospital wide coordinated program that promotes the appropriate use of antimicrobials, improves patient outcomes, reduces microbial resistance, and decreases the spread of infections caused by multidrug-resistant organisms.

- Yes, a formal antimicrobial stewardship program is in place for all inpatient care
- Yes, a formal antimicrobial stewardship program is in place for selected units / wards
- No, but a formal antimicrobial stewardship program is planned
- No, a formal antimicrobial stewardship program is not planned yet

Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 2 Antimicrobial Stewardship: structures

* 12. Does your hospital have any antimicrobial stewardship activities, like specific surveillance activities (e.g. quantity of antibiotic use), antibiotic treatment guidelines, education and training activities, audits and feedback to prescribers (e.g. ICU ward rounds with ID-specialist), specific reports or other activities?

- Yes
- No

Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 2 Antimicrobial Stewardship: structures

* 13. By confirming your hospital doesn't have any antimicrobial stewardship activities, the questionnaire will be completed. Before confirming, please scroll through the PDF questionnaire (attached to the mail with the link to this survey) to ensure that your hospital has no such activities.

- Yes, I confirm, my hospital doesn't have any antimicrobial stewardship activities
- I am not sure and would like to go through the questionnaire to ensure that my hospital does not have such activities



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 2 Antimicrobial Stewardship: structures

* 14. How are antimicrobial stewardship activities embedded in your hospital's organisational structure?

- Embedded in the IPC or ID service
- Embedded in a hospital pharmacy service
- Embedded in a patient safety or quality of care service
- Embedded in a **formal antimicrobial stewardship team (ASP team)**
- Other organizational structure
- Antimicrobial stewardship activities are not or not clearly embedded
- I don't know



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 2 Antimicrobial Stewardship: structures

15. Who is part of the formal antimicrobial stewardship team?

Tick all items that apply.

- Infectious disease (ID) specialist
- Internal medicine (Non-ID) specialist
- Clinical pharmacist
- Hospital pharmacist
- Clinical microbiologist
- Quality management officer / patient safety officer
- Specialist nurse
- IT specialist
- Liaison staff from pertinent departments
- Other

16. Who has the operational lead of antimicrobial stewardship activities?

If co-leadership, tick all items that apply.

- Infectious disease specialist
- Internal medicine (Non-ID) specialist
- Clinical pharmacist
- Hospital pharmacist
- Clinical microbiologist
- Other
- Leadership not or not clearly assigned

17. Are staff resources for antimicrobial stewardship activities formally assigned to the members of the ASP team respectively to the responsible group (e.g. in the contract)?

- Yes (for all or part of members)
- No
- I don't know

Template - please submit information using the web-based questionnaire

18. How much total staff resources in full-time equivalents (FTEs; one FTE equals a full-time position) are allocated to the ASP team respectively to the group responsible for the antimicrobial stewardship activities?

Please specify FTE by professional groups or directly indicate the total FTE.

Please indicate full-time equivalents, such as 0.8 or 2.5, and not percentages; if you do not have exact figures, please make an estimate.

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Infectious disease (ID) specialist: | <input type="text"/> |
| Internal medicine (Non-ID) specialist: | <input type="text"/> |
| Clinical pharmacist: | <input type="text"/> |
| Hospital pharmacist: | <input type="text"/> |
| Clinical microbiologist: | <input type="text"/> |
| Others: | <input type="text"/> |
| Total FTE: | <input type="text"/> |

19. Are formal interdisciplinary information and coordinating meetings on antibiotic use held between relevant units, such as hospital hygiene / ID group, pharmacy, patient safety / quality of care, medical staff and nursing?

- Regular
- Incidentally
- No

20. Does your hospital have a designated member of the management board reporting antimicrobial stewardship activities and results?

- Yes
- No

21. Does the hospital management board provide a **written statement** in support of antimicrobial stewardship activities?

A statement outlining your hospital's commitment to antimicrobial stewardship activities and providing direction and focus.

- Yes
- No

Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 3 Surveillance

* 22. Does your hospital monitor the **quantity of antibiotic use**?

- Yes, covering the whole inpatient care
- Yes, covering selected inpatient units/wards
- No
- I don't know

Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 3 Surveillance

23. With which system does your hospital monitor the quantity of antibiotic use?

- ANRESIS
- Local system
- ANRESIS and local system
- Other

* 24. How often did your hospital provide reports on the used quantity of antibiotic to the prescribers in the last 24 months?

- More than annually
- Annually
- Less than annually
- No reports
- I don't know

Part 3 Surveillance

25. How does your hospital provide feedback to the prescribers?

Tick all items that apply.

- Via intranet/internet
- Via circular letter by mail
- Via grand rounds, colloquia, or conferences related to patient safety and quality of care (e.g. Morbidity & Mortality meetings)
- Via educational sessions
- ASP ward rounds or visits providing feedback
- Other

26. How often did the microbiology department in your hospital produce cumulative antibiotic **susceptibility reports** in the last 24 months?

- More than annually
- Annually
- Less than annually
- No susceptibility reports

27. Does your hospital monitor **C.difficile** infections?

- Yes, based on lab results and clinical symptoms
- Yes, based only on lab results
- No

Part 4 Antimicrobial prescription guidelines

* 28. Has your hospital implemented evidence-based antibiotic treatment guidelines and / or evidence-based guidelines for perioperative antibiotic use?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 4 Antimicrobial prescription guidelines

* 29. Has your hospital implemented at least two evidence-based antibiotic treatment guidelines for common infectious diseases (e.g. Pneumonia, UTI)?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

* 30. Has your hospital implemented evidence-based guidelines to improve perioperative antibiotic use?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

31. Where can the local guidelines be consulted?

Tick all items that apply.

- Internet/intranet
- Mobile application
- Printed pocket guide
- Printed in physicians' room
- Other

32. Has your hospital a process in place to regularly review and update local guidelines?

- Yes
 No



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 5 Education and training, and raising awareness

We would like to know more about your hospital's education and training activities for the new and the existing staff. The next questions address the activities for the new staff.

* 33. Does your hospital provide education and training on antibiotic prescription for the new staff (or part of the new staff)?

- Yes
 No
 I don't know



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Part 5 Education and training, and raising awareness

34. For which new staff groups does your hospital provide education and training on antibiotic prescription?

Tick all items that apply.

- For the new prescribers (or part of the new prescribers)
 For the new pharmacists (or part of the new pharmacists)
 For the new nurses (or part of the new nurses)
 For other new staff (or part of other new staff)



Part 5 Education and training, and raising awareness

35. Please briefly specify the topics for each professional group that you ticked in the previous question.

For the new prescribers (or part of the new prescribers)

For the new pharmacists (or part of the new pharmacists)

For the new nurses (or part of the new nurses)

For other new staff (or part of other new staff)

Part 5 Education and training, and raising awareness

These questions now address the activities for the existing staff.

* 36. Does your hospital provide education and training on antibiotic prescription for the existing staff (or part of the existing staff)?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Part 5 Education and training, and raising awareness

37. For which existing staff groups does your hospital provide education and training on antibiotic prescription?

Tick all items that apply.

- For the existing prescribers (or part of the existing prescribers)
- For the existing pharmacists (or part of the existing pharmacists)
- For the existing nurses (or part of the existing nurses)
- For other existing staff (or part of other existing staff)



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 5 Education and training, and raising awareness

38. Please briefly specify the topics for each professional group that you ticked in the previous question.

For the existing prescribers (or part of the existing prescribers)

For the existing pharmacists (or part of the existing pharmacists)

For the existing nurses (or part of the existing nurses)

For other existing staff (or part of other existing staff)

39. In the last 24 months, did the hospital have awareness raising activities targeted towards staff, patients, and / or visitors (e.g. posters about antimicrobial stewardship activities presented in hospital restaurants, corridors, waiting areas)?

- Yes, awareness raising activities took place in the last 24 months
- No



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Part 6 Prescription

* 40. Does your hospital have a list of restricted antimicrobial agents (e.g. prescription restriction to ID consult for reserve antibiotics)?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know



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Part 6 Prescription

41. How are restricted antibiotic agents prescribed?

Tick all items that apply.

- Pre-authorisation of restricted agents
- Post-authorisation of restricted agents
- Antibiotic order form / pharmacy delivery restriction
- Computerised alert when prescribing restricted agents
- Check whether diagnostic tests were performed when prescribing restricted agents
- Mandatory bedside consultation when prescribing restricted agents
- Feedback by telephone after prescription of restricted agents
- Post-prescription review: Continuous monitoring of and advice for all patients who receive restricted agents
- Post-prescription review: Continuous monitoring of and advice for specific patient categories who receive restricted agents
- Post-prescription review: Occasional monitoring of and advice for all patients who receive restricted agents (audit)
- Post-prescription review: Occasional monitoring of and advice for specific patient categories who receive restricted agents (audit)
- Stop orders for restricted agents
- Other

42. Does your hospital have a written policy that requires prescribers to **document** an indication in the medical records or during order entry for all antibiotic prescriptions?

- Yes
- No



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Part 7 Audits and feedback to prescribers (includes advice from ID specialists)

43. Does your hospital's ID specialist or/and a clinical pharmacist participate in the ICU ward rounds?

Tick all items that apply.

- Yes, the ID specialist
- Yes, the clinical pharmacist
- No

* 44. Did your hospital participate at the national point prevalence study on healthcare acquired infections and use of antimicrobials (CH-PPS HAI)?

Tick all items that apply.

- Yes, in 2024
- Yes, in 2023
- Yes, in 2022
- No participation at CH-PPS HAI
- I don't know



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 7 Audits and feedback to prescribers (includes advice from ID specialists)

* 45. Were results of the CH-PPS HAI provided to prescribers?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 7 Audits and feedback to prescribers (includes advice from ID specialists)

46. How were results of the CH-PPS HAI communicated to prescribers?

Tick all items that apply.

- Via intranet/internet
- Via circular letter by mail
- Via morbidity and mortality meeting, etc.
- Via educational sessions
- Other

* 47. Are regular prescription audits in place regarding the treatment guidelines for common infectious diseases or regarding the perioperative antibiotic use?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 7 Audits and feedback to prescribers (includes advice from ID specialists)

48. In the last 24 months, which prescription monitoring and audit activities were conducted? Please briefly specify the activities and the units / wards.

49. If you indicated activities in the previous question, please specify if results of these activities were provided to prescribers?

- Yes, for all activities
- Yes, for selected activities
- No, no results were provided to the prescribers



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

7 Audits and feedback to prescribers (includes advice from ID specialists)

50. How were results communicated to prescribers?

Tick all items that apply.

- Via intranet/internet
- Via circular letter by mail
- Via morbidity and mortality conference, etc.
- Via educational sessions
- Other



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 8 Hospital IT Support

51. Does your hospital IT provide specific support for antibiotic stewardship activities?

Tick all items that apply.

- Yes, IT staff hours have formally been allocated to stewardship activities
- Yes, IT support can be requested if needed
- Yes, other
- No IT support available

52. Which of the following antibiotic stewardship-related activities does your hospital IT support?

Tick all items that apply.

- Selection of specified patient categories
- Data reporting
- Point Prevalence Survey on healthcare acquired infections and use of antimicrobials (PPS)
- Decision support (i.e. using clinical rules)
- Other activities
- No IT support available



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 9 Reporting system

* 53. Does your hospital produce an annual report for the hospital management focusing on Antibiotic Stewardship?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 9 Reporting system

54. Does the annual report define objectives for antimicrobial stewardship based on current observations?

- Yes
- No



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 10 Extra

55. Is your hospital engaged in Stewardship activities that have not been mentioned above?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please specify

56. In your opinion, what are the most successful aspects of the stewardship program in your hospital?

Please specify.



Survey of ASP activities in Swiss acute care hospitals, October 2024

Part 10 Extra

57. This is the end of the survey. If you have any comment, please let us know.

Thank you very much for your participation.

Template – please submit information using the web-based questionnaire