## **Medicine Matters**

Cambridge University Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

August 2015



# Further update on antibiotic prescribing on EPIC

We are writing to update you on recent changes to the medication section on Epic in relation to antibiotics.

In line with national prescribing standards, the Trust policy requires that all antibiotics must have an indication and a stop/review date.

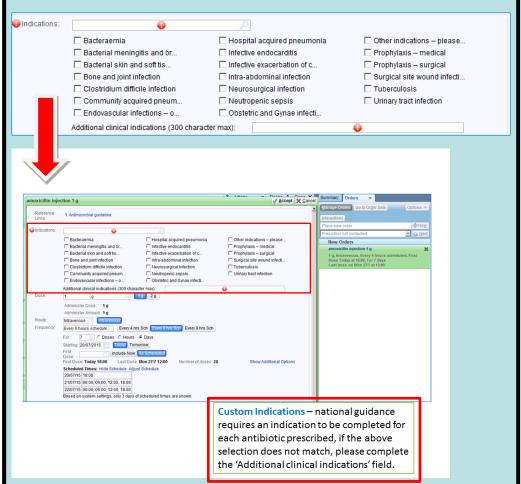
#### Indications for antibiotics

- •Choose the reason for prescribing antibiotic from the harmonised list of indications
- •Use the 'Additional clinical indications' box to document any indication not present in the drop down list

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## Antibiotic Prescribing on EPIC



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#### **Duration of antimicrobials**

- Please document the required length of treatment for each antimicrobial prescription in the duration field
- •If this field is not filled, a default of 7 days (or 1 day for aminoglycosides) will apply

### Reviewing antibiotic prescriptions

- •Please note that the antibiotic prescription will expire after the default or documented stop date unless reviewed or amended. It is the responsibility of clinical teams to ensure that <u>expiring drugs</u> are reviewed and/or acted on.
- •We recommend always using the **ORDERS** tab when reviewing medications as this highlights drugs expiring within the next 48h. A reminder at the very top of the drug list can be found in the Orders Activity > Expiring medication.



•For patients on long term antibiotic prophylaxis, type in '999' doses during inpatient stay. On discharge, in 'Edit TTO' activity, tick the 'Mark long term' box to ensure there is no stop date on the discharge summary.

#### **Use of Order Sets**

•Order sets are available for common infections (e.g. community acquired pneumonia) and are mapped to the Trust antibiotic guideline to aid appropriate management.

Antibiotic stewardship is an important part of the Trust's infection control strategy.

Thank you for supporting these measures.

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