Streptococcal Pharyngitis: Discussion Guide

During a regularly scheduled staff meeting, the stewardship leader(s) is encouraged to ask all clinical staff which of the components of the AHRQ Toolkit To Improve Antibiotic Use in Ambulatory Care related to streptococcal pharyngitis have been reviewed. It is recommended that all clinical staff review at least one of the following: the audio presentation, the slide set with accompanying facilitator guide, or the clinician one-page document. Remind staff that even if they have not had a chance to review the material, that they should still do so. Also, remind staff how they can access the AHRQ Toolkit To Improve Antibiotic Use in Ambulatory Care content.

During the same meeting the stewardship leader(s) should generate conversation among staff members to determine how the practice can collectively improve the diagnosis and management of streptococcal pharyngitis in their patients. Consider taking minutes and distributing them after the meeting to remind everyone present (and those not present) what was decided. Finally, it is also recommended to discuss progress on implementation of previous stewardship activities that the group is engaging in.

Suggested questions include the following:

1. How can the practice develop and implement approaches to standardize when to prescribe antibiotics for pharyngitis?
2. How should the practice measure compliance with the guidelines that we develop around antibiotic prescribing for pharyngitis?
3. How should the practice develop and implement approaches to standardize use of rapid strep testing and reflex bacterial cultures?

AHRQ Pub. No. 17(22)-0030

September 2022