



Delivering Antimicrobial Stewardship Education during the Covid-19 pandemic

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- On behalf of the Antimicrobial Guideline Group, Cork University Maternity Hospital



Background

- The Cork University Maternity Hospital Antimicrobial Guideline review was completed as Covid-19 emerged.
- Up-to-date antimicrobial guidelines are a core antimicrobial stewardship intervention for the safe and appropriate use of antimicrobials in hospitals.
- Aims:
 - Successfully roll out the new guidelines.
 - Provide up-to-date guideline availability for service users.
 - Adequately supporting staff with change during a stressful pandemic period.
 - Respect the constraints of social distancing requirements.

Methods

- “Bite-sized” educational videos were developed for medical and midwifery/nursing staff.
- These included Summary of Update to Adult Guidelines, Pyrexia in Labour Clinical Guideline, and Neonatal Vancomycin.
- The videos were disseminated via messenger services including Whatapp™.
- Additionally videos were uploaded to the hospital’s Youtube™ channel and a link sent to staff via email.

- <https://youtu.be/Cw9fZ1AAFbk>



Results

- The updated Antimicrobial Guidelines were successfully rolled out delivering the most up-to-date information on the safe and appropriate use of antimicrobials for service users.
- Staff reported themes included:
 - a) Accessibility: Receiving the videos on their phone via messenger services meant staff could access the information without access to a computer, often in use on busy wards.
 - b) Convenience: Access to content on demand, rather than attending a session at a set time, was more convenient during the busy workday.
 - c) Format: The video format allowed staff to digest the update more quickly and thoroughly than a written format. Staff reported being more likely to watch a video than read an email due to email fatigue during Covid-19.

Results

'was just watching your online presentation. Well done it certainly is a better way of catching our attention'
email from Consultant Neonatologist.

'Well done. Lots of praise on the Consultant's WhatsApp' – WhatsApp message from Consultant Obstetrician

Limitations and Conclusion

- Limitations: Did not collect number of views as distributed through messaging groups.
 - Conclusion: Short ‘bite-sized’ educational videos, provided on a variety of platforms, are a useful tool to provide information to busy staff during the Covid-19 period and beyond.
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