

KASIC NEWS LETTER

Issue Two, Volume One

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ASP SPOTLIGHT

Name:

Dr. Lance Smith, PharmD, BCIDP

Title:

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist – ID

Training:

University of Kentucky

Organization:

Owensboro Health Regional Hospital

Visit the [organization's website](#) here!

Not a member yet?

JOIN TODAY

IT'S FREE!

*Pictured Top: Owensboro Health Regional Hospital
Pictured Below: Dr. Lance Smith, PharmD, BCIDP*



What got you interested in antimicrobial stewardship?

I was most interested in microbiology and infectious diseases in undergrad/pharmacy school. More specifically, I feel that in most instances in medicine we are engaged in an unending battle. With infectious diseases we have the chance to win, to defeat a disease state one patient at a time.



What has been one of your biggest success in antimicrobial stewardship?

Our biggest success at Owensboro has been the development of a multidisciplinary stewardship team that is supported throughout the hospital. Though we are a community hospital, we are a relatively large hospital for the community setting and it is often difficult to get high-level support for stewardship outside of an academic medical center setting.

What has been one of your biggest barriers? How did you overcome it?

Affecting prescribing habits of community providers with little to no past collaborations with pharmacists has been one of the biggest challenges. We have had several providers who have been difficult to influence simply because they were used to operating in silos. Persistence and support from our ID physicians has been paramount in overcoming these barriers. My advice to others in this situation would be to keep trying. Eventually most of these providers will start to collaborate simply because of your persistence.

What are you most excited about working with KASIC?

I'm most excited to be involved in a network with other stewardship leaders. Owensboro Health is the largest hospital in our state west of Louisville, and I have been unable to identify any other hospitals in our half of the state that have full time dedicated pharmacist leaders for stewardship. Having the ability to lean on true peers for advice and guidance will help me best serve our patients. Additionally, having had the experience of developing our program will help me to guide others in community settings who will face many of the challenges I have.

Standardized Antimicrobial Administrations Ratios (SAAR) Peer Comparison Now Available!

Dr. Kevin Spicer with the Healthcare-Associated Infection/Antimicrobial Resistance Prevention (HAI/AR) Program at the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) distributed antimicrobial use data through the KASIC network in early October 2022. Institutions will now be able to benchmark their antimicrobial use compared to other institutions in Kentucky.

Opportunity exists to increase the number of hospitals reporting antibiotic use data to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). Reporting antibiotic use data to NHSN will meet the new 2023 Joint Commission ASP standard EP 16!

Need help with interpreting and/or responding to your NHSN Antibiotic Use data? KASIC is here for you! [Send a message to KASIC](#)

WINTER IS COMING...

Did you know in 2022 the CDC updated guidelines for pneumococcal vaccination?

Pneumococcal pneumonia, bacteremia, and meningitis can result in serious infection, lifelong disabilities, and mortality. Asymptomatic spread is a significant concern, making it all the more important to ensure our patients and community are appropriately vaccinated. There are many risk factors for pneumococcal disease, but in the Commonwealth smoking is a particularly important and common indication for vaccination.

Pneumococcal pneumonia causes an estimated **150,000** hospitalizations each year in the US

Need clarification on the updates or want to chat about antibiotic prophylaxis or vaccine schedules? [Contact KASIC today!](#)

The flu increases your risk of getting pneumococcal disease.

Each year influenza causes outbreaks in the community impacting both long and short term acute care settings. The flu can be a serious health threat and the impact of the flu can be particularly devastating to vulnerable populations, especially older adults and people living with long-term medical conditions. Contact KASIC for additional information or assistance during this flu season!

Get the shot, not the flu

Training and Education

Office Hours

Office hours are hosted virtually every Thursday afternoon from 12:00 – 1:00 pm EST and are open to anyone interested in antimicrobial stewardship regardless of background or designation.

[Link to join office hours](#)

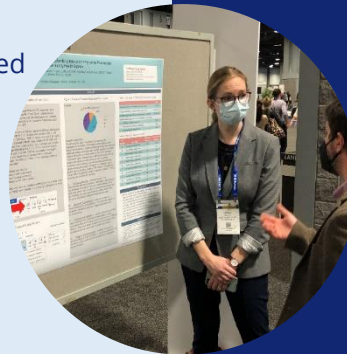
Clinical Vaccines: The Next Phase in Adult Vaccine Research

Join Norton Infectious Diseases Institute on November 30th, 2022 for an update on adult vaccinations. Open to all healthcare providers.

This event is FREE but requires registration. Visit [KylPtraining](#) for more event information, CE opportunity, and registration!

KASIC in the Wild

Dr. Ashley Wilde, KASIC lead, presents her poster on utilizing technology to provide case based education to staff pharmacists on antimicrobial stewardship. Education to staff will help meet elements of performance 12 in the revised **2023 Joint Commission Standards for Antibiotic stewardship**. Need help on delivering competency based antimicrobial stewardship education? KASIC is here for you!



Connect with us!

