

KASIC NEWSLETTER

Issue Twelve, Volume Two

*Pictured Top: Big Four Bridge, Louisville, KY
Attribution to bridgestunnels.com*

KASIC



New KASIC Advisory Board Projects!

KASIC Antibiogram

A 2021 antibiogram from 12 hospitals across the state of Kentucky is now available. Aggregate antimicrobial susceptibility are reported for common gram-positive and gram-negative organisms. **This data may help inform practices at hospitals that do not have the resources or volume to create individual antibiograms.**

[Click here to view the KASIC antibiogram](#)

Pediatric Outpatient Empiric Treatment Guide

Find recommendations for empiric treatment of common infections in ambulatory pediatric patients in Kentucky. The guide includes standard recommended doses and durations with a convenient reference chart for selecting doses based on patient weight and product concentrations.

[Click here to view the pediatric guide](#)



Blood Culture Bottle Shortage



In June 2024, BD Diagnostics announced blood culture bottle supply issues. Healthcare systems are tasked with minimizing the impact of this shortage on patient care. [Guidance has been published for navigating the shortage.](#)

Stewardship of blood cultures

- Avoid routine use in immunocompetent patients with isolated fever, leukocytosis, or uncomplicated infections (e.g. non-severe pneumonia, cellulitis, UTIs)
- Avoid daily repeat blood cultures in febrile neutropenia patients if clinically stable
- Minimize use of blood cultures if cultures from primary source of infection are available
- Use a single blood culture set to document clearance of bloodstream infections

Optimal technique for blood cultures collection

- Proper skin disinfection reduces contamination and need for re-collection
- Adequate volume of blood is necessary for best yield

1. Suleyman G, et al. Blood culture bottle inventory management and clinical conservation during supply shortages. Available at: <https://asm.org/guideline/blood-culture-shortages-management-diagnostic-stew>.
2. Ryder JH, et al. *Open Forum Infect Dis.* 2024; ofae479. doi: [10.1093/ofid/ofae479](https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofae479).



KASIC Cases

Each week, a fictional case describing a common antimicrobial stewardship opportunity is posted on X (formerly Twitter) and LinkedIn. Participants are encouraged to answer the poll first and then review the best answer along with an explanation.

Ready to test your antimicrobial stewardship knowledge?

Try out the latest case:

An elderly woman is admitted to the hospital for non-severe pneumonia. She lives in a nursing home but has not been hospitalized or received antibiotics within the last 2 years.

What organism(s) should her antibiotic regimen EMPIRICALLY cover?

- A. *S. pneumoniae*
- B. MRSA
- C. *P. aeruginosa*
- D. All of the above

[Click here for the BEST answer](#)

[Read more cases here](#)

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Be Ready for Flu Season!

The CDC recommends that all persons who are 6 months or older, with no contraindications, receive an annual influenza vaccine. The optimal timing for vaccination may vary by season, but the CDC recommends most individuals get their vaccine in September or October for best coverage.



[Click here for 2024-2025 flu vaccine recommendations from the CDC](#)

Latest Clinical Education Pearls: Click to Read!

[To De-escalate or Discontinue? Ceftriaxone at Day 3 for Cystitis](#)

[Beware Bilateral Lower Extremity Cellulitis](#)

[Pick Your Poison: Beta-Lactams in CAP](#)

[Stopping Antibiotics in Intra-Abdominal Infections](#)

[Anaerobe Awareness in Intra-Abdominal Infections](#)

Norton Infectious Diseases Institute Grand Rounds Educational Series

[When Everything Goes Wrong: The Blood Culture Edition](#)

[Early Childhood Vaccination](#)

[School Age Vaccination](#)

[Click here for Grand Rounds Information](#)