Do Clinicians Back the Backgrounders?

Jeremy Slobodan, BSP
Director, Drug Utilization, Information & Stewardship
Pharmacy Services
Alberta Health Services
Disclosure

• No industry conflicts of interest to declare
• Current member of Alberta Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics
• Current member of AHS Drugs & Therapeutics Committee
Structure

• Bottom line up front
• Key issues on a single page
• Relatability
  • Written by a person
  • Reviewed by a person
  • Vetted through a frontline group
At each presentation delivered the expectation of pharmacists to:

• Proactively share with practitioners
• Use it to build your relationship with other practitioners and establish your role to support the best use of drugs
Survey Results
Done with Pharmacists
Completion rate: 38.5% (218 of 566)

Limitations:
• Selection bias – more likely to do the survey if an individual:
  • Knows it exists
  • Uses backrounders in practice
• Most recent recollection may not reflect overall experience
Who are backgrounders shared with?

- Physicians, 35%
- Fellow Pharmacists, 40%
- Nurses, 17%
- Other, 8%
- Patients
- Nurse Practitioners
- Residents and Students
- Leadership
- None (6%)
How are the backgrounders shared?

- In person, 46%
- By email, 31%
- Other, 21%
- By fax, 2%
- Don’t distribute, 16%
- Post on notice board/put in nursing info binder
- With order/patient chart
- Pneumatic tube
Other backgrounder observations

• Topics with a “call to action” were more popular, and likely more impactful, than general ones

• Frontline feedback prior to publishing greatly improved relatability

• While it seemed like small changes, still experienced pushback within the team to get started
Select Results

- 50% decrease in injectable Vitamin B12 use
- 55% decrease in docusate use without a significant laxative increase

Feedback

- Mostly positive
- Concerns that we were oversimplifying issues
Summary

• Progress can be made by changing approach
• Be concise, be directive
• End user feedback greatly improves the final product
Acknowledgements

Project design and write up
• Dr. Micheal Guirguis
• Julia Jin

Backgrounder development
Drug Stewardship Team
• Dr. Lauren Breese
• Darren Pasay
• Dr. Micheal Guirguis

Drug Utilization & Evaluation Team

Drug Use Advisory Panel
Drugs and Therapeutics Backgrounder

Contact Information:
- jeremy.slobodan@ahs.ca
- @jeremyslobodan
- (403)352-7648

Antimicrobial Stewardship Backgrounders available at www.ahs.ca
http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page11608.aspx