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Director and State Public Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Governor

November 28, 2017

Dear Emergency Department Leadership:

The CDPH Healthcare-Associated Infections Program and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, together with Dr. Larissa May of the University of California Davis, invite your facility to participate in a collaborative to address antibiotic resistance (AR) by implementing antibiotic stewardship in Emergency Departments (ED). Excessive exposure to antibiotics results in emergence and spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, potentially avoidable adverse drug reactions, and increased healthcare utilization and cost. ED physicians and staff are at the frontlines of patient care for acute infections and have an important role in promoting patient safety and reducing adverse events related to unnecessary or inappropriate antibiotic selection.

To address varying needs and strategies for implementing antibiotic stewardship in ED serving diverse communities and facility types, the collaborative will invite and engage ED partners across the state to participate in a year-long ED Antibiotic Stewardship Collaborative.

Participation in the collaborative will provide your facility with:

- Webinar and in-person assistance with development of an action plan to improve antibiotic stewardship practices at your local institution.
- Learning and discussion sessions with opportunities to share best practices, challenges, and lessons learned with area healthcare facilities.
- Tools to enhance antibiotic stewardship strategies specific to the ED.

As a collaborative member, facilities will be asked to:

- Obtain appropriate leadership approvals and gather an interdisciplinary team.
- Actively engage in collaborative activities, commit to an action plan, and attend quarterly discussion and learning sessions.
- Participate in the ED antibiotic stewardship quality improvement and evaluation process.

Enrollment will begin in November 2017 and the collaborative will extend from February 2018 through February 2019. To participate, please submit the attached Commitment Form, completed by your facility's ED Director or Quality Improvement Officer, via email by January 2, 2018 to Larissa May at [lsmay@ucdavis.edu](mailto:lsmay@ucdavis.edu).

Sincerely,

Erin Epon, MD  
Assistant Chief, Public Health Medical Officer  
Healthcare-Associated Infections Program  
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Director of Emergency Department Antibiotic Stewardship  
Professor, Emergency Medicine  
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