DEFINITION
Antimicrobial stewardship is defined as a rational, systematic approach to the use of antimicrobial agents in order to achieve optimal outcomes. This means the right agent, at the correct dose, for the appropriate duration in order to cure or prevent infection, while minimizing toxicity and emergence of resistance.

POLICY:
The Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) will monitor compliance with evidence-based guidelines or best practices regarding antimicrobial prescribing which may include but is not limited to the following activities:

- Streamlining or de-escalation therapy
- Educational activities
- Antimicrobial management protocols and guidelines
- Surveillance monitoring
- Formulary restrictions

LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT
The administration at FLOYD supports the development and expansion of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program by dedicating the necessary human, financial, and IT resources for it to be successful.

- Personnel Provides funding for an ID physician (physician leader) and a clinical pharmacist for oversight and management of program,
- Education Provides funding for education of physicians, hospital staff, and patients,
IT Resources  Provides necessary electronic software and materials to implement, track, and report results of stewardship strategies. (Cerner and Theradoc systems)

TEAM MEMBERSHIP

The Antimicrobial Stewardship Program at FLOYD will be made up of a multidisciplinary team and will function as a subcommittee of the P and T Committee. It will be composed of:

♦ Infectious Disease Physician
♦ Pharmacy Team Leader
♦ Family Practice Physician
♦ Hospitalist Physician
♦ Clinical Pharmacist (s)
♦ Infection Prevention RN
♦ Microbiology Lab Representative

Additional Members: (to attend team meetings as needed)
♦ Senior Administrative Representative
♦ Quality Representative
♦ Nurse Representative
♦ IT Representative

The Antimicrobial Stewardship Team will meet and report program performance quarterly to the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

Accountability:
The Infectious Disease physician will serve as the physician team leader and guide the team’s progress. The Clinical Pharmacy Coordinator will serve as pharmacist team leader. The pharmacist team leader will:
♦ Implement listed strategies
♦ Assist in the development of clinical pathways
♦ Perform Medication Use Evaluations as needed
♦ Track antimicrobial usage
♦ Assist microbiology with antibiogram development and susceptibility reporting

TEAM PROGRAM STRATEGIES

The Antimicrobial Stewardship team will develop and implement the following strategies:
♦ Prospective audits and feedback
♦ Evidenced based guidelines and clinical pathways
♦ Will develop and publish antibiogram
♦ Dose Optimization of antimicrobials
♦ De-escalation of therapy
♦ Parenteral to oral antimicrobial conversion
♦ Education to physicians, staff, and patients on antimicrobial use
♦ Antimicrobial Restriction (as needed)
The team will develop necessary policies, pathways, and orders regarding these strategies and submit to the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee for approval. Important team findings and recommendations will also be reported to the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee for evaluation and approval.

The team will provide feedback on antimicrobial use and resistance to the medical, nursing, and relevant hospital staff.

Antibiogram will be published on GreenLink every 6 months for the availability of physicians and hospital staff.

The team will develop and provide education to physicians and staff at hire and periodically. Prescribers of antibiotics will be educated that they must document an indication for all antibiotics in the medical record or during the order entry process.

Patients will be educated on antimicrobial use when prescribed by their physician.