# Antimicrobial stewardship program associated with optimized antibiotic selection, decreased total antibiotic exposure, and cost savings in total joint arthroplasty

## Antimicrobial stewardship in major orthopedic surgery: final program results

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## Introduction

Antimicrobial Stewardship: known to many, newer to orthopedics

High stakes in total joint arthroplasty (TJA)

## Where is the right balance?

Surgical site infections (SSIs) → further antibiotic exposure, morbidity, direct and indirect costs<sup>1-3</sup>

Antimicrobial resistance, toxicities, *C. difficile*, morbidity, direct and indirect costs<sup>4-7</sup>

Recent reviews underscore challenges in defining best practice antibiotic use in TJA surgery<sup>6,7</sup>

- Limited high-quality data for many antibiotic modalities
- Variation in drug selection, dosing strategy, route of administration, timing, duration, phase of care
- → Unmet need for orthopedic surgery antimicrobial stewardship program (Ortho ASP) development, implementation, and assessment

## Hypothesis

A collaborative, comprehensive Ortho ASP can optimize antibiotic use in TJA

Indicators of optimal antibiotic use:

- Narrower, more targeted spectrum
- Reduced number of exposures
- Improved or no effect on SSI rates
- Improved or no effect on postop AKI
- Reduced direct and/or indirect costs

## Methods

**Design**: single-center, prospective, pre-post interventional study

**Population**: all TJA patients at a large surgery center in an urban, community teaching hospital

Intervention: Ortho ASP implementation

**ASP Work Team** – Reviewed literature and generated recommendations

Ortho Quality Committee – Discussed and approved proposed changes

Change Team – Operationalized and implemented approved process changes

Ortho ASP Lead – Maintained SSI case series and monitoring dashboard

- → 12 total recommendations issued
- → 11 accepted changes
- → 3 grouped implementations

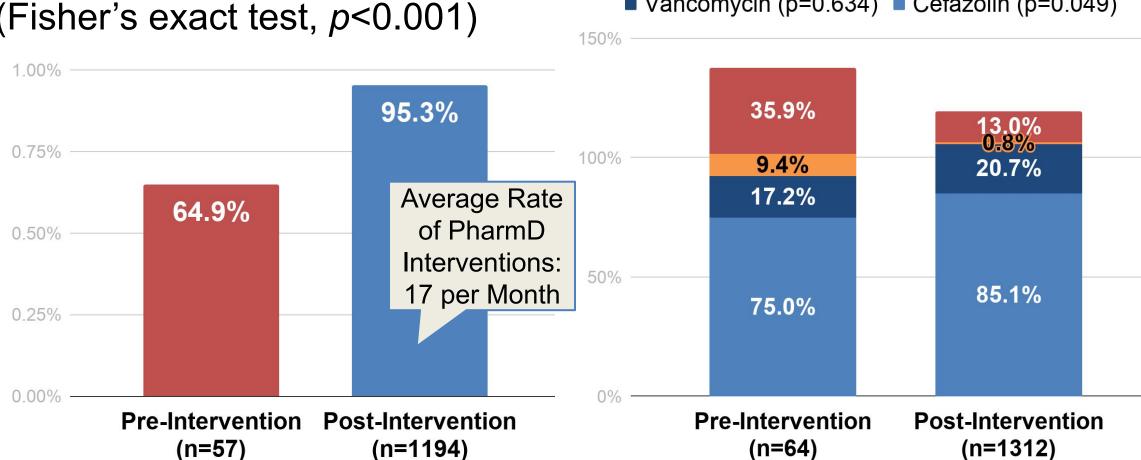
#### Timeline **Post-Intervention** Phase III Phase II Phase I Optimized local Preop MRSA Preop antibiotics screening/decolon. urine Bone cement Preop PCN allergy screening antibiotics protocol assessment Preop IV Antibiotic Optimized preop IV antibiotics for durations antibiotic protocol revision TJA

## Results – Antibiotic Selection

**Primary Outcome:** Rate of optimal preop IV antibiotic selection for primary TJA (Fisher's exact test, *p*<0.001)

**Secondary Outcomes:** Antibiotic selection (IV+irrigation) for all TJA

■ Gentamicin (p<0.001)</li>■ Clindamycin (p<0.001)</li>■ Vancomycin (p=0.634)■ Cefazolin (p=0.049)



### **References and Disclosures**

1) J Arthroplasty. 2012;27(8 Suppl):61-65 e61; 2) JAMA Surg. 2014;149(6):575-581; 3) J Arthroplasty. 2018 Feb;33(2):521-526; 4) Arthroplast Today. 2018 Sep; 4(3): 335–339; 5) Geriatr Orthop Surg Rehabil. 2012 Dec; 3(4): 157–163; 6) J Am Acad Orthop Surg 2014;22:772-781; 7) J Am Acad Orthop Surg 2020;28:e793-e802.

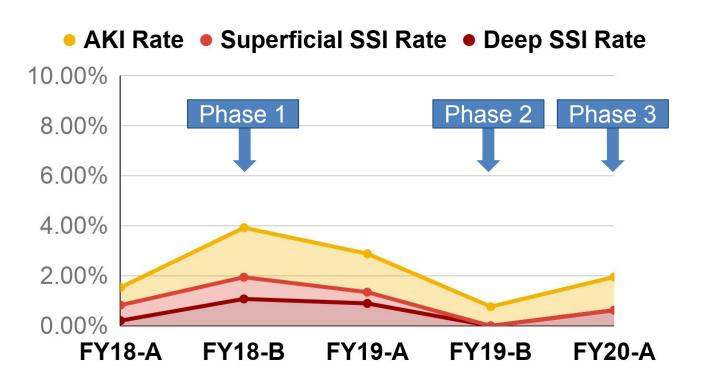
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## **Results – Quality Outcomes**

**Descriptive Analysis:** Institutional postop SSI and AKI rates for primary TJA



**Descriptive Analysis:** Institutional *S. aureus* colonization rates for all TJA (n=1312): MRSA: 4% | MSSA: 9% | Unk: 6%

## Results – Cost Analysis

	Pre: 10-12/17	Post: 10-12/19	Difference
SSI Events <sup>2</sup>			
-Deep	1 x \$25,000	1 x \$25,000	\$0
-Superficial	0 x \$7,000	0 x \$7,000	\$0
AKI Events <sup>4</sup>	8 x \$25,000	5 x \$25,000	-\$75,00
IV Antibiotic Cos	<b>ts</b> : Widely varia	able throughout -	- excluded
Local Antibiotic	Costs		
-Gentamicin	200 x \$120	0 x \$120	-\$24,00
-Tobramycin	200 x \$390	0 x \$390	-\$78,00
-Vancomycin	800 x \$60	1000 x \$60	+\$12,000
Testing Costs			
MRSA Screening	0 x \$25	1000 x \$25	+\$25,000
Urine Screening	1000 x \$62	200 x \$62	-\$50,00
Total Net	Cost per 100	0 TJA Cases:	-\$190,000