



The Antimicrobial Advocate

Nebraska ASAP Newsletter

NHSN AUR Module Facility Reimbursement Opportunity

Does your hospital participate in the Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program? If so, reporting to the National Healthcare Safety Network Antimicrobial Use and Resistance (AUR) Surveillance module is a requirement starting in calendar year 2024.

The Nebraska DHHS Healthcare Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance Program has grant funding available through July 2024 that provides reimbursement of expenses related to the onboarding and subsequent maintenance of the Antibiotic Use and/or Antibiotic Resistance Module in NHSN up to \$20,000 depending on the size of your facility.

For full application information or more information on the AUR module, visit the Nebraska DHHS website: [Nebraska NHSN AUR Reimbursement Requirements NHSN Antibiotic Use and Resistance \(ne.gov\)](#)

Ready to apply?

If you have questions, contact:
Jenna Preusker, HAI/AR Program Pharmacist jenna.preusker@nebraska.gov or
Katelynn Piper, HAI/AR Project Manager katelynn.piper@nebraska.gov

SAVE THE DATE!

2024 Nebraska Antimicrobial Stewardship Summit

Smart Antibiotic Choices, Stronger Future

Friday, May 31, 2024 | 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

Embassy Suites LaVista Hotel & Conference Center
Registration information to follow

Antibiotic Stewardship Quality Poster Opportunity

New this year!!

We invite healthcare professionals and practitioners to submit poster presentations at the 2024 Nebraska Antimicrobial Stewardship Summit focusing on quality improvement projects in antimicrobial stewardship.

The aim is to highlight innovative and effective initiatives undertaken by Nebraska healthcare facilities to enhance antimicrobial stewardship.

[Click Here to Learn More on the ASAP Website!](#)



ACIP Releases Updates On Vaccine Recommendations

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices has published the 2024 recommended immunization schedules. The adult schedule includes the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine, mpox vaccine, an updated version of the COVID-19 vaccine, and a new MenACWY-MenB combination vaccine.

[ACIP Recommended Immunization Schedule for Adults Aged 19 Years or Older – 2024 | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](#)

[ACIP Recommended Immunization Schedule: Children and Adolescents Aged ≤ 18 Years – 2024 | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](#)



Why Question a Quinolone?

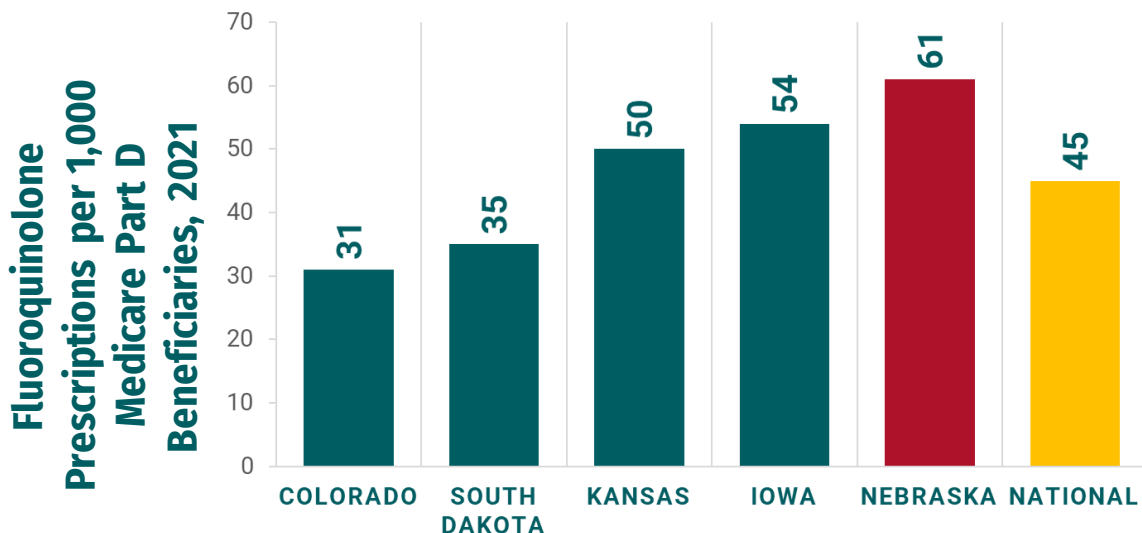
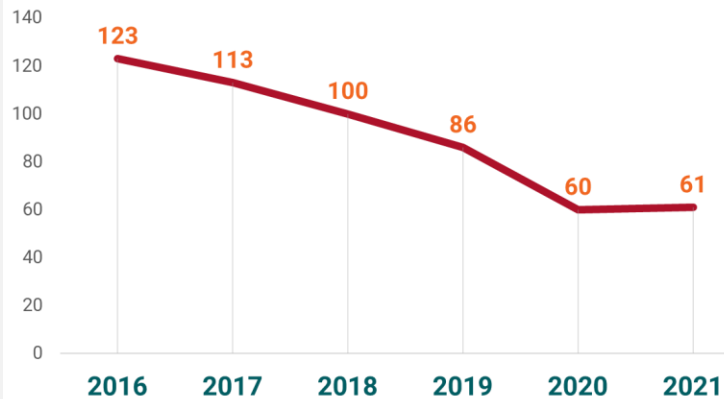
Fluoroquinolones are an important class of antibiotics but should be used sparingly! Fluoroquinolones are among the highest risk antibiotics for causing *Clostridioides difficile* infections, can drive antibiotic resistance, have several significant drug interactions, and can cause any number of significant side effects.

Based on data from Medicare Part D claims, Nebraska prescribers wrote about half as many fluoroquinolone prescriptions in 2021 than in 2016.

However, Nebraska prescribers still rely more on fluoroquinolones than several surrounding states and continue to prescribe higher than the national average.

Have you implemented quinolone stewardship strategies in your facility?

Fluoroquinolone Prescriptions per 1,000 Medicare Part D Beneficiaries in Nebraska, 2016-2021



Data source: Publicly available Medicare Part D Prescribing Data: [Medicare Part D - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Data \(cms.gov\)](#)