

# THE ANTIMICROBIAL ADVOCATE

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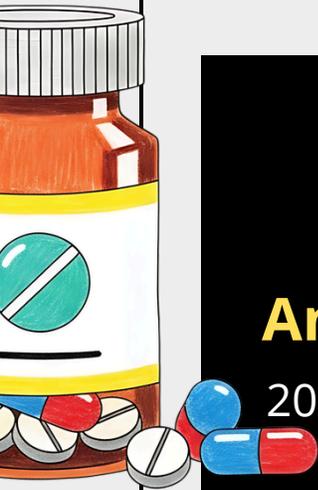
## Feedback Survey

As The Antimicrobial Advocate moves into its third year of publication, we'd love to hear your thoughts!

Please take a moment to fill out this quick 2-minute survey to provide us with feedback.

[Click Here to take the Survey now!](#)





# Prescribing Perspective: Outpatient Antibiotic Trends

2024 Nebraska Report

For the last 3 years, prescription rates have remained steady in the 825 - 850 prescriptions per 1,000 population range.

This rate is decreased from 851 in 2023 but remains above the national average.

Fluoroquinolone use has been declining since 2019.

More information found on the [CDC Antimicrobial & Patient Safety Portal](#)

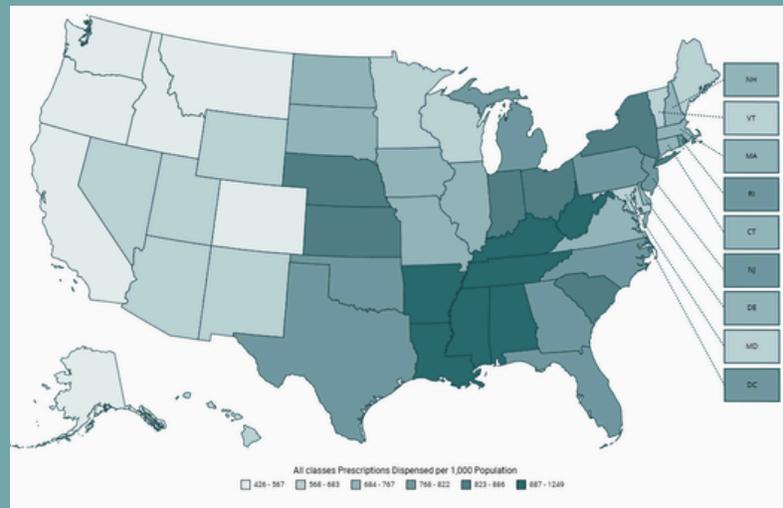
Nebraska was the

**10<sup>th</sup>**

highest antibiotic prescribing state in the nation in 2024.

In Nebraska...

approximately 8 in 10 patients seen in a clinic setting received a prescription for an antibiotic in the year of 2024



The nationwide outpatient prescribing rate in 2024 was 752 prescriptions per 1,000 population. In Nebraska, the rate was 840.

## NE rates per 1000 population by drug class:

- Penicillins 186
- Cephalosporins 152
- Macrolides 107
- Fluoroquinolones 41



# Long-Term Care Trends in Antibiotic Use

As part of the Nebraska ASAP LTC Antibiotic Use Collaborative, in 2025, 38 facilities in Nebraska reported antibiotic use data.

Median **antibiotic use rate:**

# 38

days of therapy per 1000 resident days.

Median **antibiotic start rate:**

# 5

antibiotic starts per 1000 resident days.



# Long-Term Care Core Element Trends

In 2024, 42 Nebraska LTCF completed the NHSN annual survey. Of those, **69%** have implemented all 7 Core Elements compared to **82%** nationally.

The element with the lowest rate of implementation is **Reporting** both nationally and in Nebraska.

How does your LTCF compare in antibiotic use rates and antibiotic start rates? For quarterly feedback reports from ASAP, Nebraska LTCs can **Join the Nebraska ASAP LTC Antibiotic Use Collaborative today!**

Getting started is quick and easy! Email us at [nebraskaasap@nebraskamed.com](mailto:nebraskaasap@nebraskamed.com) to learn more.





Original Investigation | Infectious Diseases

## Oral Vancomycin for Prevention of Recurrent *Clostridioides difficile* Infection A Randomized Clinical Trial

Julie A. Keating, PhD; Tinghui Xu, MS; Mary Beth Graham, MD; Mayur Ramesh, MD; Sahil Khanna, MBBS, MS; Jonah Dixon, BS; Ashley Kates, PhD; Kendra Haight, BSN, RN; Jiwei Zhao, PhD; Christopher Saddler, MD; Nasia Safdar, MD, PhD

### [Article Link](#)

This prospective, double-blind randomized clinical trial published in July 2025 sought to evaluate **whether low-dose oral vancomycin given during and shortly after systemic antibiotics could reduce recurrence of *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI)** in adults with recent CDI who were receiving antibiotics for another indication.

Table 2. As-Randomized Analysis of Primary and Secondary Outcomes<sup>a</sup>

Outcome	Patients, No. (%)		Absolute difference in percentage, % (95% CI)	P value
	Oral vancomycin	Placebo		
Primary outcome				
CDI recurrence within 8 wk	17/39 (43.6)	24/42 (57.1)	-13.5 (-35.1 to 8.0)	.22
Secondary outcome <sup>b</sup>				
VRE carriage at visit 1	20/37 (54.1)	27/40 (67.5)	-13.4 (-35.1 to 8.2)	.23
VRE carriage at visit 3	15/30 (50.0)	6/25 (24.0)	26.0 (1.5 to 50.5)	.048

Among the 81 patients included, CDI recurrence rates were 43.6% in the vancomycin group and 57.1% in the placebo group.

**This difference did not achieve statistical significance.**

There was however a **statistically significant increase in VRE carriage** observed at visit 3 with 50% of patients in the vancomycin group and 24% of patients in the placebo group were found to be carrying VRE.

### Prophylaxis or promotion of resistance?

This study calls attention to the uncertainty surrounding the clinical implications and risk of resistance with the use of oral vancomycin prophylaxis for CDI recurrence and suggests that **this practice cannot be routinely recommended based on current evidence.**

# Upcoming Educational Opportunities

Creighton Infectious Diseases  
Symposium - April 25, 2026

Infectious Diseases  
Symposium 2026



Creighton  
UNIVERSITY

[For Details and Enrollment - Click Here!](#)



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE** >>>>

**NEBRASKA  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
CONFERENCE**

**Friday,  
August  
28,  
2026**

Beardmore  
Event Center,  
Bellevue,  
Nebraska

New this year! Join us for a co-hosted event by the Nebraska Infectious Diseases Society and Nebraska ASAP. This conference combines the NIDS annual meeting with the Nebraska Antimicrobial Stewardship Summit  
More details to follow!



**Nebraska**



**ASAP**