

2026 Minnesota Antibiotic Stewardship Conference

Strengthening Stewardship: From Foundation to Future

May 5-6, 2026 | Virtual* | Two half-day sessions

Day 1 agenda: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 | 1 – 4 p.m. CDT

TIME	SESSION
1:00 P.M.	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Ruth Lynfield, MD State Epidemiologist and Medical Director Executive Office Minnesota Department of Health</p>
1:05 P.M.	<p>Patient Story: Be Careful What You Advocate For—It Might Save Your Life</p> <p>Lisa Thimjon Director of Government Relations Minnesota Department of Health</p>
1:20 P.M.	<p>KEYNOTE SESSION – Thinking Outside the Box: Sustaining and Expanding Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs</p> <p>Alyssa Christensen, PharmD, BCIDP System Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Manager HealthPartners</p>
2:20 P.M.	<p>BREAK</p>
2:30 P.M.	<p>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>▪ A Collaborative Approach in Improving Antibiotic Stewardship in a Rural Long-term Care Facility Rennae Houle-Burns, MSN, RN, CIC Director of Nursing Minnesota Veterans Home – Silver Bay</p> <p>▪ Penicillin Allergy Evaluation and De-labeling Brandon Anderson, PharmD, BCIDP Clinical Pharmacist Abbott Northwestern Hospital</p>
3:10 P.M.	<p>BREAK</p>
3:20 P.M.	<p>Best Practices in Antifungal Stewardship: Tips from the Trenches</p> <p>Melissa D. Johnson, PharmD, MHS, AAHIVP Professor in Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases & International Health Duke University Medical Center Liaison Clinical Pharmacist, Duke Antimicrobial Stewardship Outreach Network (DASON)</p>
4:00 P.M.	<p>Closing Remarks / Adjourn</p>

Day 2 agenda: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 | 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT

TIME	SESSION
8:30 A.M.	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Mohammed Abdalla, MBBS, MPH, MBA Epidemiologist Senior, HAI/AR Programs & Partnerships Unit Minnesota Department of Health</p>
8:35 A.M.	<p>One Health in Action: Minnesota’s Collaborative Approach to Antibiotic Stewardship</p> <p>Kristen Clark, DVM, MPH, DACVPM Minnesota One Health Antibiotic Stewardship Collaborative Director Executive Office Minnesota Department of Health</p>
9:00 A.M.	<p>KEYNOTE SESSION – Stewardship-Driven Advances in UTI Diagnosis and Management</p> <p>Kimberly C. Claeys, PharmD, PhD Associate Professor, Infectious Diseases University of Maryland School of Pharmacy Center for Innovation in Diagnosis, University of Maryland School of Medicine</p>
10:00 A.M.	<p>BREAK</p>
10:10 A.M.	<p>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>▪ Getting an Outpatient Antibiotic Stewardship Program Off the Ground: The Allina Health Experience</p> <p>Christina Koutsari, PharmD, PhD, BCPS, BCIDP Ambulatory Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacy Specialist Allina Health</p> <p>▪ Antimicrobial Stewardship Recommendations and Strategies to Improve Antibiotic Use in Nursing Homes</p> <p>M. Salman Ashraf, MBBS, FIDSA Medical Director, Nebraska DHHS HAI/AR Program Associate Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases University of Nebraska Medical Center</p>
10:50 A.M.	<p>BREAK</p>
11:00 A.M.	<p>Antibiotics Without Borders: Understanding Use and Improving Stewardship Across Cultures</p> <p>Beth K. Thielen, MD, PhD, FAAP, CTropMed Assistant Professor of Pediatrics Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases Department of Pediatrics University of Minnesota Medical School</p> <p>Munira Maalimisaq, FNP-BC, DNP-c CEO and Family Nurse Practitioner Inspire Change Clinic</p>
11:50 A.M.	<p>Closing Remarks / Adjourn</p>

*All sessions will be livestreamed.

Learning objectives

To improve antibiotic stewardship in Minnesota, we will:

- Discuss strategies to implement, sustain, and expand antibiotic stewardship programs across the health care continuum.
- Describe best practices in diagnostic stewardship to improve clinical decision-making and enhance antibiotic stewardship programs.
- Explore collaborative and One Health approaches to strengthen stewardship practices and address the threat of antimicrobial resistance.

Register

Please register and indicate which breakout sessions you plan to attend by 5 p.m. CDT on April 30.

[2026 Minnesota Antibiotic Stewardship Conference Registration](https://redcap.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=CT4M4PT4K9H8DAKF)
(<https://redcap.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=CT4M4PT4K9H8DAKF>)

You will receive Webex calendar invites for the conference via email on the Monday following your registration submission.

Stay updated

[2026 Minnesota Antibiotic Stewardship Conference](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/onehealthabx/event/asc26.html)
(www.health.state.mn.us/communities/onehealthabx/event/asc26.html)

Additional information and conference materials will be posted to the website as they become available.

Check your email post-event for a link to the online conference evaluation.

Proof of attendance documentation will be available upon completion.

Minnesota Department of Health
Healthcare-Associated Infections & Antimicrobial Resistance (HAI&AR) Section
PO Box 64974
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
health.stewardship@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5414.