

Infectious Disease Quality Agenda Themes and Corresponding Society Activities*

ABMS Standard 18, Development of a Quality Agenda: In collaboration with stakeholder organizations, Member Boards must facilitate the process for developing an agenda for improving the quality of care in their specialties. One area of emphasis must involve eliminating healthcare disparities.

- Member Boards are expected to support a quality agenda in alignment with their specialty-at-large.
- Member Boards must collaborate with key organizations, including specialty societies and other quality organizations, to identify areas in which patient care can be improved, review the areas and define strategies to improve care.

Problem	Objectives	Relevant Society Strategies
AIM 1: Eliminate healthcare disparities in infectious disease (e.g., workforce, access, etc.).		
• Disparity in the quality of care for patients living with substance use disorder is a primary focus for infectious disease physicians as this is a significant portion of their population. • Communities of color are disproportionately affected by infectious diseases due to systemic barriers to care. • 80% of counties in the U.S. do not have access to infectious disease physicians.	• Educate clinicians and patients on the importance and safety of vaccinations and addressing vaccine hesitancy concerns among persons with substance use disorder and within communities of color. • Improve access to STI and hepatitis infection testing among marginalized communities, including justice-involved individuals and/or those with limited English proficiency and variable health literacy. • Increase support and access to addiction care in rural communities, including support of critical access hospitals (e.g., telehealth, workforce). • Increase education and implementation of empathic, relationship-centered and de-stigmatizing language. • Increase access to infectious disease specialists both in rural communities and for justice-involved individuals.	• IDSA Strategic Plan 2025-2030 • IDSA: Immunization • IDSA: Training program director resources • IDSA: Fellows-in-training career resources • Academy of Communication in Healthcare • Future inclusion of pharmacy societies/external stakeholders as alternatives for prescribing HCV treatments

AIM 2: Decrease the Incidence of HIV Infections.		
- Nationally, only 65% of people diagnosed with HIV are estimated to be virally suppressed. - Access to overall testing and treatments for sexually transmitted infections along with specific access to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and PEP for HIV prevention continue to be a challenge.	- Increase access to STI screening and diagnosis, and to PrEP therapy. - Address barriers to accessing HIV care and treatment, such as lack of affordable access to health insurance, the cost of recommended HIV antiretrovirals, stigma and discrimination and a lack of HIV physicians. - Decrease cost of HIV medications. - Increase access to government resources and training modules regarding HIV education on society websites.	Core Quality Measures Collaboration-Consensus Core Set: HIV and Hepatitis C AIDS Healthcare Foundation Clinical Info HIV.gov Clinical Guidelines HIVMA/IDSA 2024 Primary Care Guidance Update for Those Who Care for Persons with Human Immunodeficiency Virus National HIV Curriculum Home Page - National STD Curriculum Home Page - National HIV PrEP Curriculum CDC: National HIV Prevention and Care Objectives
AIM 3: Reduce antimicrobial resistance.		
Antimicrobials continue to be overused in all healthcare settings despite increased awareness of the harms associated with antibiotic use.	- Increase the number of well-supported stewardship programs within healthcare systems, including rural locations. - Increase the availability and use of local antibiograms at each healthcare site, working closely with relevant health departments. - Incorporate AMR stewardship into health professions education and training (e.g., UME, GME, PA, NP, Pharm.D.). - Increase access to antibiotic stewardship education, guideline use and diagnostic tools.	SHEA/IDSA Clinical Practice Guidelines for Implementing an Antibiotic Stewardship Program IDSA: Antimicrobial Stewardship Centers of Excellence Program IDSA Academy SHEA Online Education Center: Penicillin Allergy Management - Removing Barriers to Optimal Antibiotic Prescribing AHRQ: Antibiotic Stewardship Toolkits CDC: Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship - Future partnership with other specialty societies to increase availability of free resources around these topics

*Please submit any comments or questions you may have to StrategicAlliances@abim.org. Thank you!