

Galway: GAPP - Galway Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy / Guidelines (GAPP): Documentation of Antimicrobial Use

Documentation of Antimicrobial Use

Accurate documentation is a key component of appropriate antimicrobial prescribing. It improves communication between medical, nursing and pharmacy staff and between different medical practitioners who may review therapy throughout the prescribed course and subsequently. It also facilitates multidisciplinary audit of antimicrobial prescribing within and between hospitals, to inform and improve education and action plans to improve antimicrobial practices.

Key elements to consider and document when prescribing antimicrobials are:

R - Route : Please review all IV antimicrobials DAILY

I - Indication for the antimicrobial e.g. pneumonia

D - Duration/Review Date e.g. 7 days for hospital acquired pneumonia

Always document the treatment indication and treatment duration or review date in both the appropriate box in the antimicrobial section of the drug chart (example shown below) AND in the patient's medical notes.

Example of antimicrobial section of drug chart with indication and duration documented