



Working Towards Equitable Antibiotic Prescribing

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Studies report differences in antibiotic prescribing to children of different racial, ethnic, and primary language groups, and with different types of insurance

This occurs in multiple settings including primary care clinics, emergency departments, and urgent care clinics

May be driven by differences in:

- Antibiotic **allergy** rates
- **Access** to healthcare
- Health **literacy**
- **Communication** barriers
- **Experiences** with the healthcare system
- **Comfort/trust** of the healthcare system

Clinicians/prescribers interact with and evaluate patients through the **lenses of their own experiences** and bring their **own perceptions** into encounters with the patients and families

What can I do?

Many factors influencing differences in prescribing are beyond the individual prescriber's control. But consider the following:

Investigate	Concentrate	"Individuate"	Communicate	Collaborate
Review variations in your prescribing data between groups. Reflect on preconceptions that may influence your prescribing.	Listen carefully to caregivers' concerns about the patient so you can reassure and educate rather than assume they want an antibiotic.	Take a pause and consider the family/individual in front of you. Determine the best care for the patient's needs at this time.	Use interpreters to ensure clear communication. Consider pictures, videos, or demonstrations when language or literacy are barriers.	Engage in shared decision making with families. Explain the reasoning behind your diagnosis & treatment. Encourage questions

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