What is the Surgical National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey?

The Surgical NAPS (SNAPS) is a comprehensive and standardised auditing tool to assist in the stewardship of antimicrobials used for surgical (and non-surgical procedures) at your facility. It aims to be useful, practical and generalisable, providing some flexibility to fit into the workings of your facility and to suit a variety of different auditors including pharmacists, nurses and doctors.

The development of the SNAPS is jointly funded by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Melbourne Health and the NCAS.

The SNAPS will be piloted for a 6 month period from April to September 2016. Following this, an evaluation will take place and modifications will be made based on respondents’ comments.

What is the difference between SNAPS and the Hospital NAPS?

The Hospital NAPS allows auditing of all types of infections and is designed to capture aspects of antimicrobial prescribing at a broad level. It is conducted as a point-prevalence survey and an annual Australia-wide benchmarking survey is coordinated by the NAPS team to coincide with Antibiotic Awareness Week. For more information, refer to the Hospital NAPS User Guide.

The Surgical NAPS is specifically designed for surgical (and non-surgical) procedures, and captures more comprehensive data on the quantity and quality of antimicrobial prescribing in this setting. It utilises a retrospective (or prospective) survey methodology. At this stage, there is no nationally coordinated data collection period and data may be entered at any time throughout the 6 month pilot period.

How to perform the survey?

Timing

Whilst the survey can be conducted during any timeframe, you may wish to consider the following factors:

- Your facility’s surgical rosters – select a time period to capture all or various surgical specialties
- Time of the year – avoid low surgical activity periods (e.g. holiday periods)

Inclusion criteria

Any procedure types can be audited. This includes surgical and/or non-surgical procedures.
Methodology

The SNAPS is a longitudinal survey and so participants can choose to perform a retrospective (recommended) or prospective audit.

How and whom is the survey data submitted?
Data is to be submitted electronically via the NAPS website www.naps.org.au each facility is responsible for ensuring this is complete. Once the individual patients are finalised, their data for the survey has been submitted.

The data will remain the property of the facility entering their data and can be removed at any time. The data will be stored on the NAPS server which is data protected.

When will my reports be available?
Reports are automated and can be generated through the website by any user who is registered for the facility. At this stage we anticipate the reporting functionality will be available in May 2016.

The reports that will be made available include a dashboard report, limited benchmarking report and a data export functionality.

Who do I contact for more information?
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