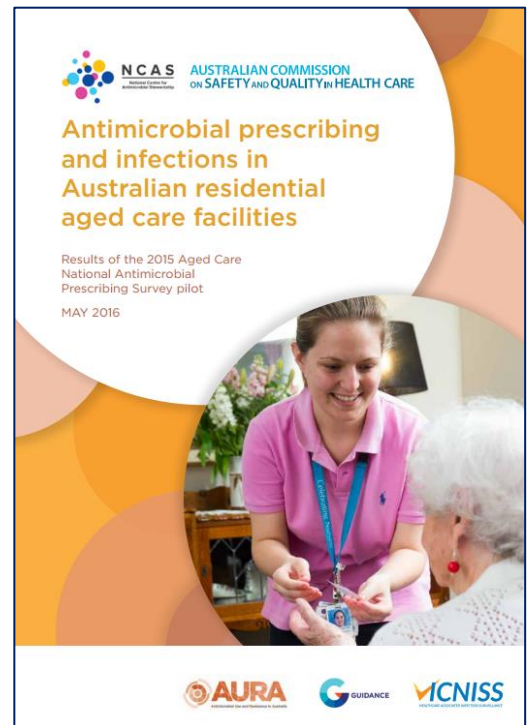


What is the Aged Care National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey?

acNAPS is an annual survey that aims to reduce harm to residents through preventing infections and promoting the appropriate use of antimicrobials, thereby reducing the emergence of antimicrobial resistance.

acNAPS is a collaboration between the participating aged care homes, National Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship (NCAS), Guidance Group and Victorian Healthcare Associated Infection Surveillance System (VICNISS) Coordinating Centre. NCAS, the Guidance Group and the VICNISS Coordinating Centre are based at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity in Melbourne. acNAPS is funded by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) as part of the Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in Australia project.

acNAPS was first conducted in 2015. Results of this pilot are presented in the *'Antimicrobial prescribing and infections in Australian residential aged care facilities; Results of the 2015 Aged Care National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey Report'* available from the National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey website - www.naps.org.au



Who can participate in acNAPS?

ALL Australian aged care homes and multi-purpose services are strongly encouraged to participate in 2018.

All permanent, respite or transitional residents in participating homes are included.

What is antimicrobial resistance?

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is the ability of a microorganism (like bacteria, viruses and parasites) to stop an antimicrobial (such as antibiotic, antiviral and antimalarial agents) from working against it. The single most powerful contributor to resistance is the overuse and misuse of antibiotics.

Why is antimicrobial resistance an issue for aged care homes?

As a result of AMR, standard medical treatments become ineffective and infections persist and may spread to others. Health care professionals are left with limited, or in some instances, no available treatment options. The prevalence of AMR is increasing both in Australia and internationally.

What are the benefits of participating?

At a local level, participation assists in:

- Formulating recommendations for preventing infections and appropriate antimicrobial use in line with national guidelines
- Demonstrating concordance with the new Australian Aged Care Accreditation Standards

At a national level, the data assists in:

- Informing policy decisions
- Identifying priorities for public health action, such as education campaigns or regulatory measures.

How should the survey be performed and what data is collected?

The survey can be undertaken on any single day between **1 June and 31 August 2018**. Some general demographic and denominator data about each participating home is collected. More specific data is required for those residents who have a confirmed or suspected infection or are receiving an antimicrobial on the audit day. Data can be collected by a nurse, infection control practitioner or pharmacist.

Optional **online training sessions** are scheduled for Monday 28th (1400 hours), Tuesday 29th (1100 hours), Tuesday 5th June (1100 hours) and Thursday 7th June (1400 hours).

For more information or to register for a training session

Email support@naps.org.au or telephone (03) 9342 9415

Registration for a training session is possible via the NAPS website: www.naps.org.au