

SNAPPS WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT TEMPLATE

What is the self-directed learning issue that was identified in your oral presentation?

The learning issue identified in my oral presentation was the many facets of prescribing antibiotics.

Research the self-directed learning issue and provide a summary of your findings which is fully supported by appropriate, scholarly, EBM references.

Prescribing antibiotics for patients seems like it would be a daunting task. There are several classes of antibiotics that each have different mechanisms of action. There are anti-infectives for upper and lower respiratory, skin, GI, and GU conditions. There is a growing number of antibiotic resistant microorganisms and as a provider, I do not want to contribute to that expanding problem. Learning how to effectively educate patients on the importance of taking antibiotics as prescribed is something I would like to master.

I spent time researching how this matter can be addressed. The first thing I came across is stewardship programs put in place to guide providers in antibiotic use. Stewardship programs have been implemented and resulted in providers optimizing antibiotic selection, re-assessing antibiotic treatment when the results of diagnostic testing are available, and using the shortest effective duration of therapy (Gramling, 2021). The CDC also has recommendations for healthcare professionals available in the form of CEs, videos, infographics, print outs, and more. These offer guidance on the appropriate instances for antibiotic prescription and selection. This ultimately leads to improved patient outcomes, reduced microbial resistance, and decreased spread of infections caused by drug resistant organisms (Healthcare Professional Resources, 2022).

Based on all of these findings, in order to appropriately prescribe antibiotics to my future patients, I need to utilize my resources and stay up to date on the most recent evidence. By appropriately using the algorithms and utilizing stewardship programs, I will be able to build my