Standards for the Manuscript

1 Goals

1. Critically review available evidence for surgical antibiotic prophylaxis in various surgical procedures.
2. Make evidence based recommendations regarding aforementioned procedures.
3. Publish a SAGES manual.
4. Create an interactive web app that serves as an easy-to-use authoritative source (similar to [Sanford Guide](#)).
5. Everyone is a co-author of both the manual and web app.

2 Why?

Principles of antimicrobial stewardship, save money, avoid antibiotic related adverse effects, and "doing our part" (Starship Troopers 1997) against world-ending ultra-resistant superbugs.

3 Expectations

1. Write the manuscript in markdown. See markdown.qmd which was sent with this document.
2. Do a "thorough review" of the relevant literature. "Thorough" is left to be defined by the subject matter expert (i.e., you), but here are some suggestions:

    i) Include studies that are specifically about, or can be reasonably generalized to, your assigned procedure(s).
    ii) No study is too old; as long as you deem the methodology still relevant to modern surgical practice, it may be included.
    iii) It is okay to include studies you consider subpar, dubious, questionable, or otherwise trash. Reviewing the quality of available evidence is an important part of making an informed recommendation.
    iv) It is better to include too many studies rather than too few; we can always cut down.
    v) Start with RCTs and meta-analyses. There is no reason not to include all of these.
    vi) Include non-randomized prospective and retrospective studies at your discretion. You should discuss these if there is a paucity of higher quality evidence.
    vii) Please discuss any existing relevant societal guidelines.

3. Organize the manuscript in sections organized by type of study in decsending order of quality (i.e., randomized controlled trials, prospective non-randomized trials, database studies, etc.). Within sections, organize studies in chronological order with subheadings for each study. See example.pdf as well as example.qmd (from which example.pdf was generated) for examples.
4. For each article please discuss:

    i) Relevant research context of the study (usually in the article's introduction).
    ii) Methodology

    iii) Results

    iv) Authors' conclusions

    v) Any criticisms (your own and/or from other sources)

5. Use direct quotes whenever possible, especially when authors make a firm conclusion or recommendation.

6. Report exact results whenever possible.

7. Relevant figures and tables should be included in the manuscript (see Section 7).

8. Cite all studies (see Section 6).

9. Make concluding recommendation for or against surgical antibiotic prophylaxis.

    i) It is ok to make nuanced recommendations (e.g., differing recommendations for certain risk factors or patient populations).

    ii) If there is no good evidence either way, it is ok to leave to the discretion of the operating surgeon.

10. Make recommendations for further research, such as:

    i) "We need to study X risk factors more."

    ii) "We need a randomized controlled trial."

    iii) "We need more studies in the United States as current studies in X region do not represent our patient population accurately."

    iv) "Scotty, we need more power" (Kirk 2265)

4 Articles

Please keep PDF copies of the articles you use to write the manuscript. You will submit them later.

> 💡 Tip
>
> If you do not have access to an article you need, please let me know. I can probably get it to you.

5 Headings

Please format your headings in a "LastName et al., YYYY" format:

```
# Russell et al., 1992
```

If the study is a guideline or study performed by a group, use a "GroupName, YYYY" format:

```
# SAGES, 2024
```

6 Citations

Please collect your citations in .bib format. You will submit them later. If you can not find a .bib citation but have a DOI, ISBN, or PMID or if you found a different citation file format (.ris, .nbib), you can convert this to .bib using [this website](#).

Please see markdown.qmd for details on where to get these files and how to include citations in your manuscript.

7 Images

If there is a table or figure you would like to include in your manuscript, use the following format to include it:

```
![My Figure Caption](figure1.png){#fig-uniquename}
```

where:

- [My Figure Caption] is whatever you want the caption to say in the manuscript.
- (figure1.png) is the file name of your figure.
- {#fig-uniquename} is your cross reference key for the figure (see markdown.qmd for more information).

Please see markdown.qmd for more information on figures and how to include and reference them in your manuscript.

All images should be saved as .png and saved for submission with your manuscript.

8 Collecting Data

A Google sheet will be shared with you. This is divided into tabs by type of research study. Please fill out the fields as much as possible for each article you include. The fields should be self-explanatory but please let me know if you have issues.

9 Submission

When complete, the manuscript and auxillary documents will be uploaded to a secure website for processing and compilation. Access to the file upload will be granted at a later date.

Zip the following documents into a single folder and submit:

1. The manuscript .txt or .qmd file.
2. Articles saved as .pdf files.
3. Citations saved as .bib or .nbib files.
4. Images of all figures/tables as .png files.

Please also complete the assigned Google Sheet.

10 References

Kirk JT (2265) Star trek

Starship Troopers (1997)