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|  | Question: What type of doctor are you?  Responses: Gastrointestinal Specialist - 1                     Emergency Room - 2                     Neurosurgeon - 1                     Pediatrician - 6                     Internal Medicine - 4                     Cardiologist - 1                     Family Practice - 3                     OBGYN - 1                     Oral Surgeon - 1                     Nephrologist - 2                     Orthopedic Surgeon - 1                     Oral Surgeon - 1                     Urologist - 1                     Pulmonologist - 1  Explanation: A wide variety of doctors was obtained at the local hospital. This was beneficial because it allowed us to see how different types of doctors practice medicine. This prevented having only one population of doctors that deal with all the same type of patients. For example, if only pediatricians were surveyed would only indicate what was occurring and being prescribed for children in the community.  Question: How long have you been practicing?  Responses: 1-10 Years 11-20 Years 21-30 Years                          12                  13                5  Explanation: From the above results, we were able to obtain data on doctors that were practicing anywhere from three to thirty years. Two surveys obtained, one form a doctor practicing three years and one from a doctor practicing thirty years answered each question the same which was interesting because one would assume that the way in which medicine is practiced would be different for the newer doctors. That is the reason we chose to put this question in the survey.    Question: Since you began practicing medicine, have you changed your criteria used for prescribing antibiotics?  Responses: Yes No                      20   9  Explanation: Our data indicated that a majority of the doctors are trying to stay current with the increasing problem of resistance. There were still some doctors that are not changing their ways, but no pattern was found between the number of years in practice and whether or not they have changed their habits.    Question: Would you prescribe an antibiotic for a viral infection?  Responses: Yes No                      1    30  Explanation: We found that all but one doctor answered "No" indicating that doctors in the community are not intentionally contributing to the resistance problem and that the doctors are following guidelines for prescribing antibiotics.  Question: If a patient demands that an antibiotic be prescribed, do you comply?  Responses: Yes No                    3    25  Explanation: Although a majority of the data reflected that doctors are not following patient orders, five doctors wrote in "sometimes" which indicates that some doctors are giving into their patients and consequently adding to the problem of resistance. Those doctors that answered "yes" or "sometimes", support our hypothesis. Some doctors may feel it is necessary to prescribe antibiotics when their patients want them, but they need to educate their patients on the resistance factor and in some cases maybe the doctor needs to be further educated on the subject.  Question: Please circle the following type of Penicillin you most commonly prescribe  Responses: Penicillin G 1                     Penicillin V 3                  Ampicillin 6                     Amoxicillin 24                     Pivampicillin 0                     Cloxacillin 0  Explanation: Amoxycillin was overwhelmingly prescribed over all the other types of Penicillins listed. This supports our hypothesis in that doctors are contributing to the problem by not varying the antibiotics they prescribe. Penicillin is one of the most commonly prescribed antibiotics and it is alarming that the type of Penicillin is not being varied.  Question: If your patient is allergic to penicillin and has a respiratory infection, what would be your alternate antibiotic?  Responses: Bioxcin 3                     Erythromycin 20                     Depends         3                     Ceplialexis 1                     Doxycyeline 1                  Ciproploxocin 1                     Zithromax 1                     Keflex 1                     Septra 2                     Pediazole         1  Explanation: Erythromycin was the number one response antibiotic by the doctors. This was a free response question which gave doctors the option to write in many different types of antibiotics and a majority of them still wrote Erythromycin. Even if the doctor chose another antibiotic, they still wrote in Erythromycin. Our results reflect that doctors need to vary the antibiotics they are prescribing, which again, supports our hypothesis. Though there was some variation in antibiotics, there is still a high frequency of Erythromycin, and antibiotics should be further varied to avoid resistance.  Question: If a patient returns with the same type of infection, which of the following is your common course of action? (Please circle a letter)  Responses: a) Prescribe the same antibiotic with an increased dosage 0                     b) Prescribe the same antibiotic with the same dosage  4                     c) Prescribe an alternate antibiotic       26  Explanation: Not one of the doctors in the population chose response "a" which is positive for the medical community because that would most likely contribute to the resistance problem. By prescribing a higher dose, doctors would simply help the bacteria evolve to resist the stronger antibiotic. A majority of the doctors said they would prescribe an alternate antibiotic which is positive because it shows variation which is one of the leading ways to fight resistance.  Question: If a patient has an upper respiratory infection, what do you normally prescribe?  Responses: Varied. Many doctors wrote comments.  Explanation: We decided to throw this question out of our survey because it was highly subjective and open to interpretation. Some of the doctors did provide us with an antibiotic they would prescribe, but followed it with a comment or an explanation of why they would prescribe that particular antibiotic. Many of the doctors simply left it blank or asked their own questions such as: "Is it viral?", "What are the symptoms?", and "What kind of infection is it?"  Question: Do you perceive bacterial resistance to antibiotics as a problem in the future?  Responses: Yes Somewhat Not At All                        27        4        0  Explanation: This question illustrates that doctors are aware of the current problem of resistance and in order to be a part of the solution, they should continue to inform their patients on the importance of taking antibiotics correctly and they should be educated on prescribing antibiotics. |

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