



# MEASURING ANTIMICROBIAL USE

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**SHEA ASRW**

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# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this presentation, the learner will be able to:

- Define common or standard antimicrobial use metrics for your stewardship research project
- Identify likely sources of variation when comparing antimicrobial use between institutions
- Indicate the role of risk adjustment when comparing facilities
- Describe predictive models that produce standardized use metrics



Information

Knowledge

Action

Define common or standard antimicrobial use metrics for  
your stewardship research project

# REVIEW OF CONSENSUS STATEMENTS

Included in four consensus statements:

- 1) Days of therapy (DOT) per 1,000 patient days
  - Or Defined Daily Doses (DDD)

Included in one or more consensus statements:

- 1) Days of excess or avoidable antibiotic use
- 2) Days of therapy per admission

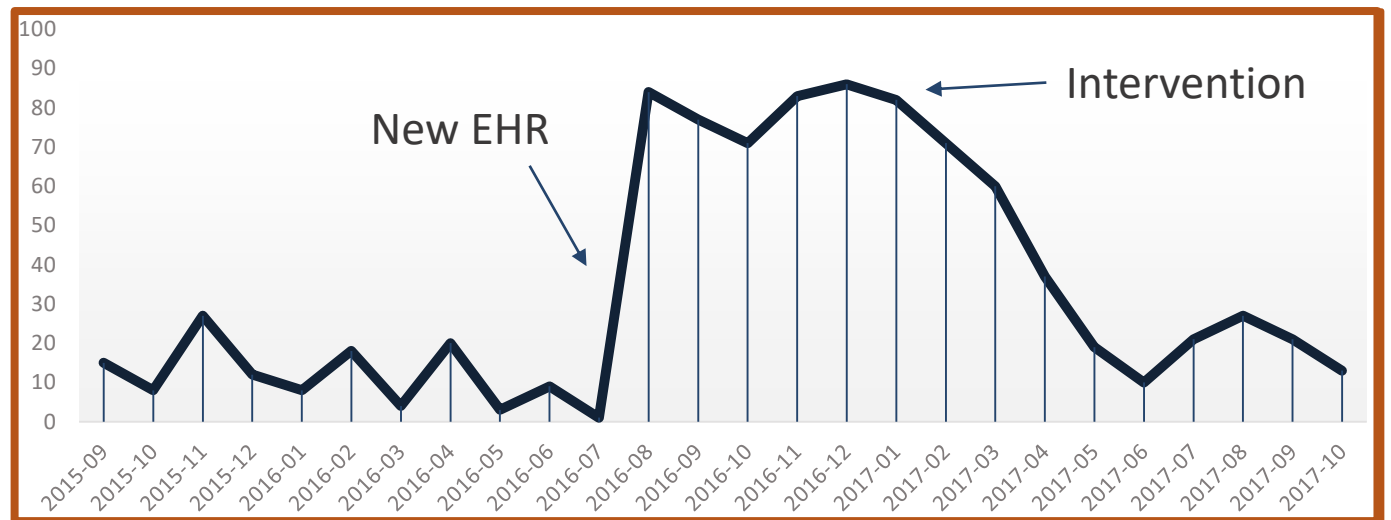
Morris AM et al. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2012;33(5):500-6. Pollack LA, et al. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2016;37(10):1201-11. Moehring RW, et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2016;64(3):377-83. Thern J et al. *Infection* 2014;42:351-62. Van den Bosch et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2015;60:281-91.

# ANTIMICROBIAL DOSES

If it's simple, and it works,  
don't overcomplicate it.

Very effective stewardship  
interventions can occur by  
measuring number of  
doses.

Number of Clindamycin Doses Before and After Switching EHRs



Data courtesy of Laurie Blankenship, PharmD

# ANTIMICROBIAL DEFINED DAILY DOSE (DDD)

“the assumed average maintenance dose per day for a drug used for its main indication in adults” found in the Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification System and DDD index

- For example, for ceftriaxone this is 2 grams per day

Calculation:  $\text{Sum of [Total grams of each antibiotic} \div \text{DDD for each antibiotic]}$

## Strengths

- Promoted by the World Health Organization
- Original metric
- Easy to calculate

## Limitations

- Not applicable to pediatric patients
- Dose adjustments skew the data
- Certain drugs have very inaccurate estimates of days of therapy

# ANTIMICROBIAL DAYS OF THERAPY (DOT)

A day of therapy is any day in which at least one dose is received

For example:

- Cefazolin 1 g x1 = 1 DOT cefazolin
- Cefazolin 2 g IV q8h = 1 DOT cefazolin
- Vancomycin plus ceftriaxone = 2 DOT (1 for vancomycin, 1 for ceftriaxone)

## Strengths

- Promoted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Applicable to pediatric patients
- Less between drug discrepancies

## Limitations

- More difficult to calculate
- Overestimates true days of therapy for drugs dosed multiple times per day
- Unrelated to total grams of antibiotic

# DEFINED DAILY DOSE VS DAYS OF THERAPY

Comparison of values between 130 different U.S. hospitals

Mean number of hospital beds: 288 +/- 176 (range 20 – 1020)

	Hospitals	DDD/1,000 PD	DOT/1,000 PD	Difference	DDD g/day	Actual g/day
Total	130	792 ± 147	776 ± 120	p=0.137; 60% correlation		
Ceftriaxone	130	45 ± 28	63 ± 36	- 29*	2	1.46
Pip-tazo	127	30 ± 20	43 ± 29	- 41*	14	10.1
Levofloxacin	123	76 ± 58	75 ± 56	0.7	0.5	0.51
Ciprofloxacin	123	18 ± 22	14 ± 16	+ 25*	0.5	0.72

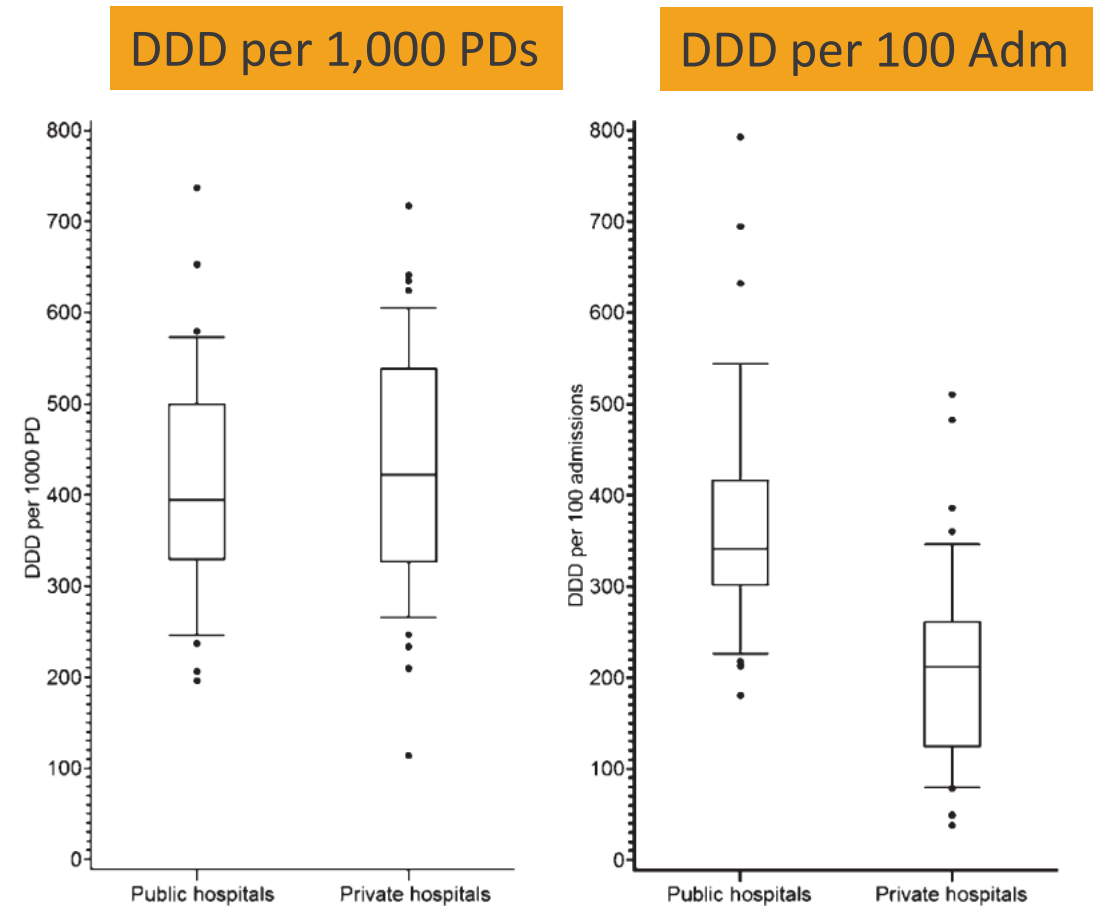
\*Statistically significant



# NORMALIZATION PER 1,000 PT DAYS or 100 ADMISSIONS

Evaluation of  
77 (36%)  
hospitals in  
south-western  
France

**FIG. 1.** Distribution of total antibiotic consumption in public and private hospitals, expressed as defined daily doses (DDD)/1000 patient-days and 100 admissions. The box stretches from the lower hinge (the 25th percentile) to the upper hinge (the 75th percentile). The median is shown as a line across the box. Therefore, a quarter of the distribution is between this line and the top of the box. The line above the upper hinge is the 90th percentile and the line below the lower hinge is the 10th percentile. Filled circles represent hospitals which have a total consumption superior at the 90th percentile or inferior at the 10th percentile.



The median length of stay in private hospitals was shorter than in public hospitals (4 vs 8 days)

# OTHER

Length of antimicrobial therapy

Antimicrobial-free days

Proportion of admissions receiving specific antimicrobial

Antimicrobial de-escalation rate

Antimicrobial cost of therapy

Antimicrobial prevalence (point-prevalence surveys)

# Identify likely sources of variation when comparing antimicrobial use between institutions

Both warranted and unwarranted variations in antibiotic use exist.

Both random and assignable variations in antibiotic use exist.

The goal is to understand the variation and reduce unwarranted variation.

# SOURCES OF VARIATION IN ANTIBIOTIC USE

## Differences in the patients being cared for

- Rate and types of infection
- Antimicrobial resistance rates
- Percent with high severity of illness

## Differences in clinical practice patterns

- Local infectious diseases guidelines (and associated adherence rates)
- Changes in prescribing due to drug shortages
- Lack of evidence or disagreement among experts

# DETERMINING CAUSE OF VARIATION



# CLINICAL SERVICE LINES AND FLOOR TYPE

Clinical service line impacts the percent of patients receiving antibiotics

- Among 70 academic medical centers, 14% of psychiatry patients received an antibiotic, while 100% of liver transplant patients received an antibiotic

Intensive care unit floor type also significantly contributes to antimicrobial use

- Proportion of patient days with an ID diagnosis code and hospital location (ICU versus other) explained 46-51% of the variation in over 500 U.S. hospitals

Polk et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2011;53(11):1100-10. Baggs J, Fridkin S, Pollack L, Srinivasan A, Jernigan J. Oral abstract #685 IDWeek 2015

# CASE MIX INDEX

The sum of the total cost weights of all inpatients per a defined time period divided by the number of admissions.

- The cost weight of a diagnosis-related group (DRG) X is defined by dividing the average cost per case of DRG X by the mean cost per case on a nationwide level.

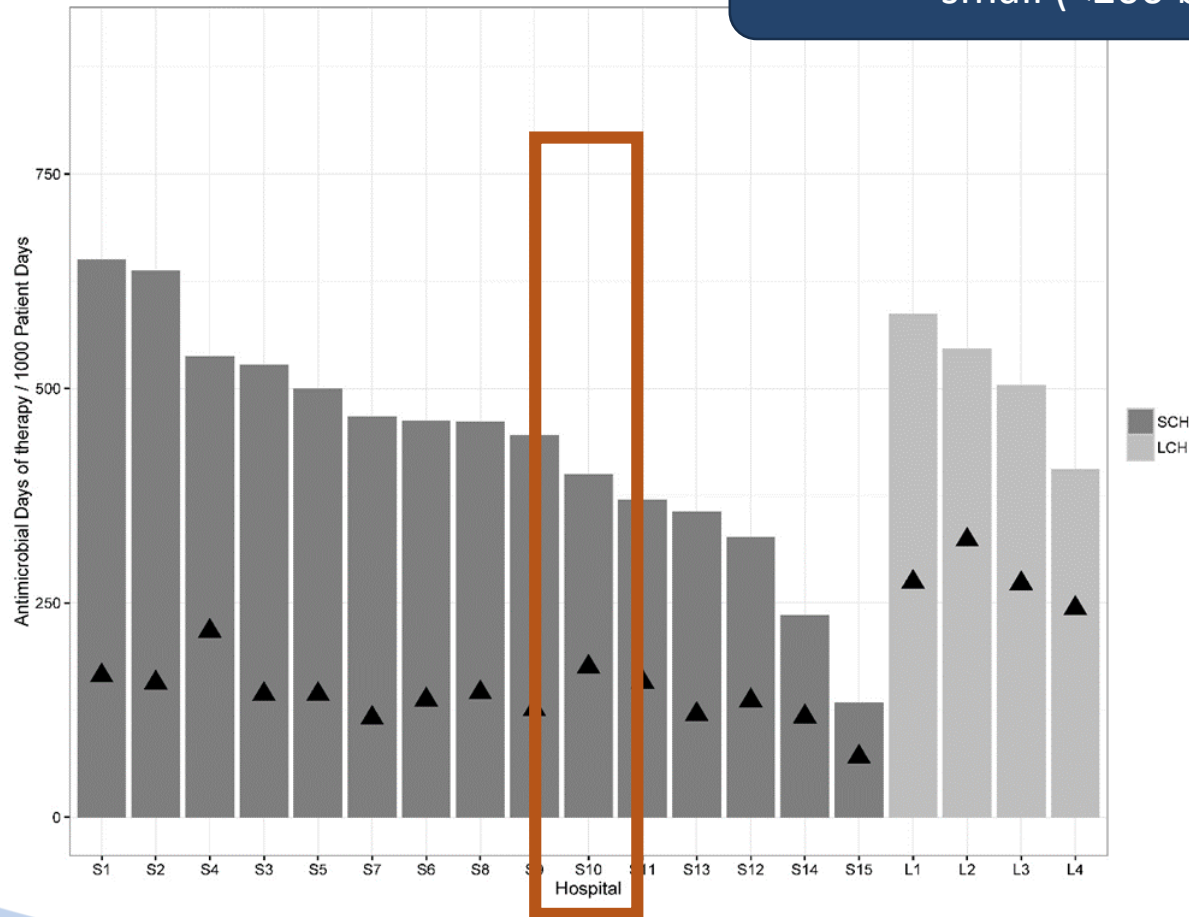
## Switzerland example

- CMI significantly correlated with DDD/100 bed-days
  - Explained 57% of the variation between units at a tertiary care university hospital
  - Explained 46% of the variation between 13 acute care hospitals

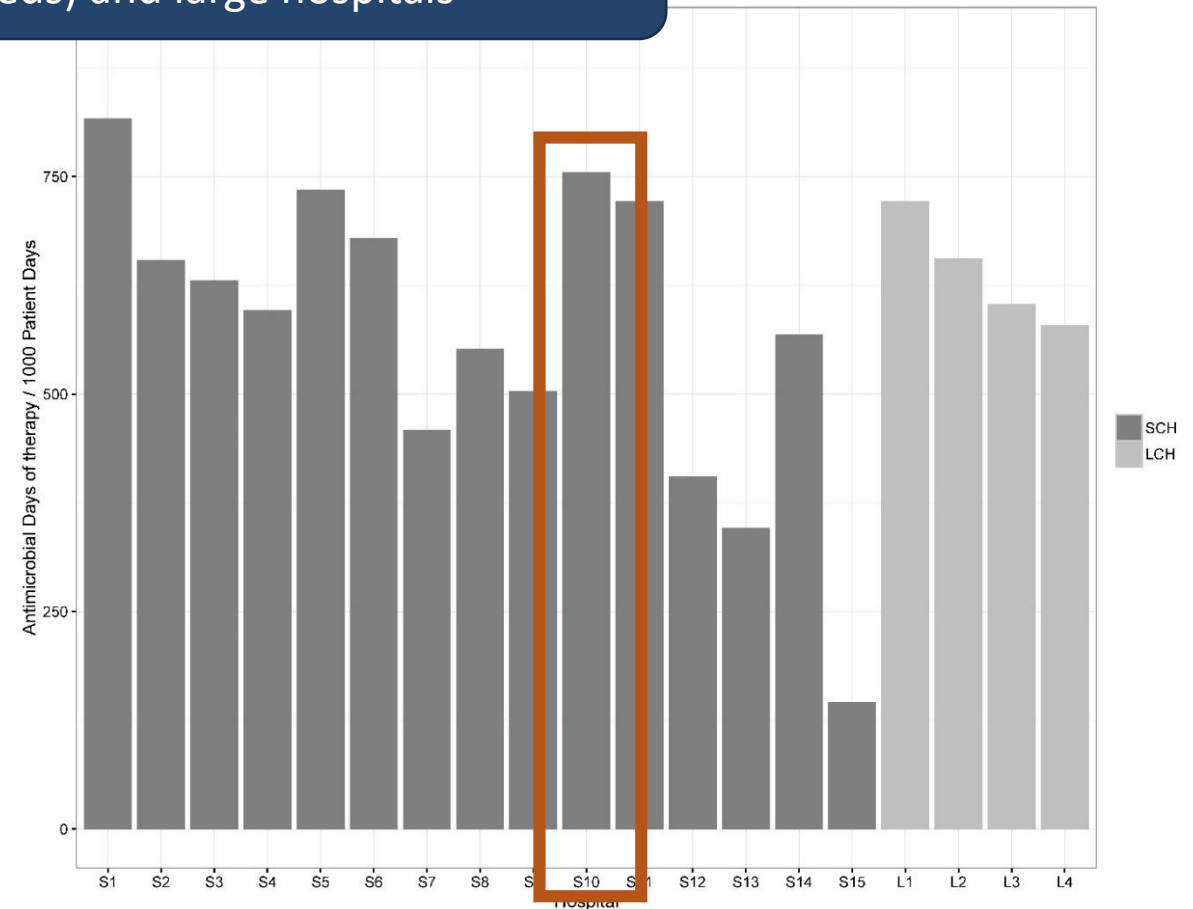
Big limitations: (1) divided by number of admission, not patient-days  
(2) definitions and variables change over time

# HOSPITAL SIZE

DOT per 1,000 patient days present similar between small (<200 beds) and large hospitals



▲ case-mix index



Excluding labor & delivery, maternity, nursery, psychiatry units



## OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Surgical volume

Proportion patients surgical DRG

No. cases of pneumonia

No. cases of UTI

No. cases of bacteremia

Teaching status

Proportion ID ICD-9/10 codes

Rates of resistant organisms

Average patient age

Average patient comorbidity score

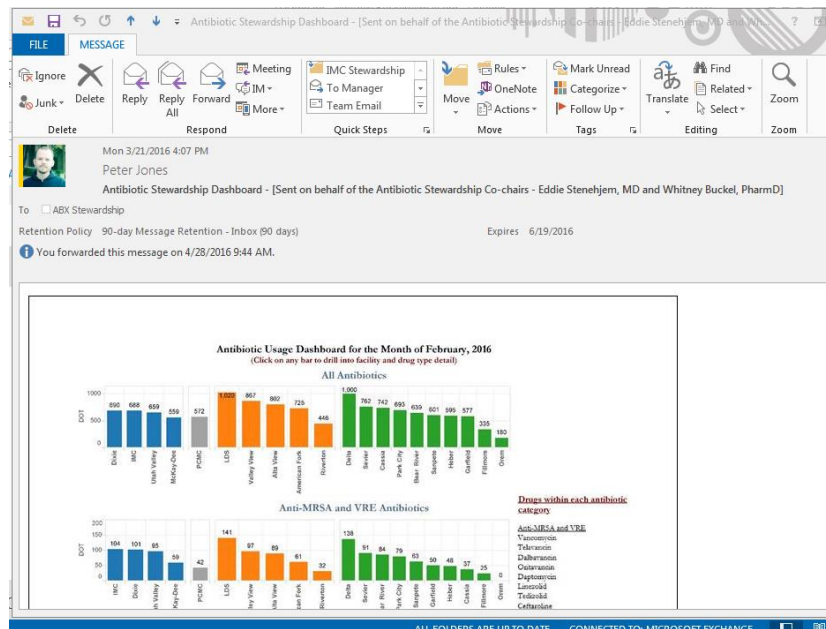
Urban or rural location

MacDougall C et al. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2008;29(3):203-11.  
Baggs J, Fridkin S, Pollack L, Srinivasan A, Jernigan J. Oral abstract #685 IDWeek 2015

Indicate the role of risk adjustment when comparing facilities

# YOUR ADMINISTRATOR

Thanks for sending the antibiotic use report my way. To me, this looks like our DOT is pretty good. Is that accurate?



# CHOICE, CHANGE, COMPLETION (CCC)

The Veteran Affairs Health Care System has developed a novel approach  
Look at antimicrobial use and spectrum as a proportion of admissions

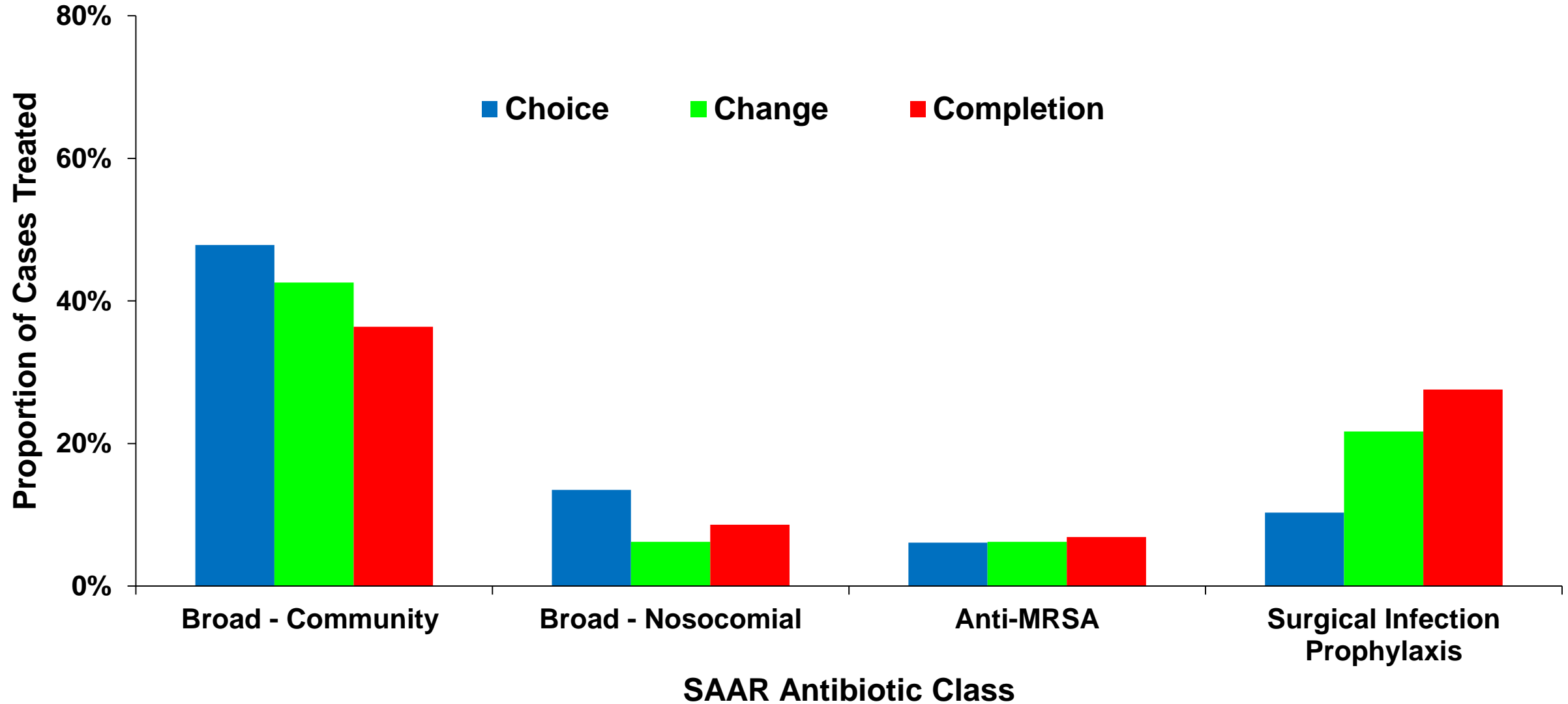
- At Choice (0 – 2 days)
- At Change (3 – 4 days)
- At Completion (5+ days or discharge)

Proportion may add up to  $> 1$  as patients may receive more than one drug class within the specified time-frame

The next 3 slides are courtesy of Jesse Sutton, PharmD, Salt Lake City VA

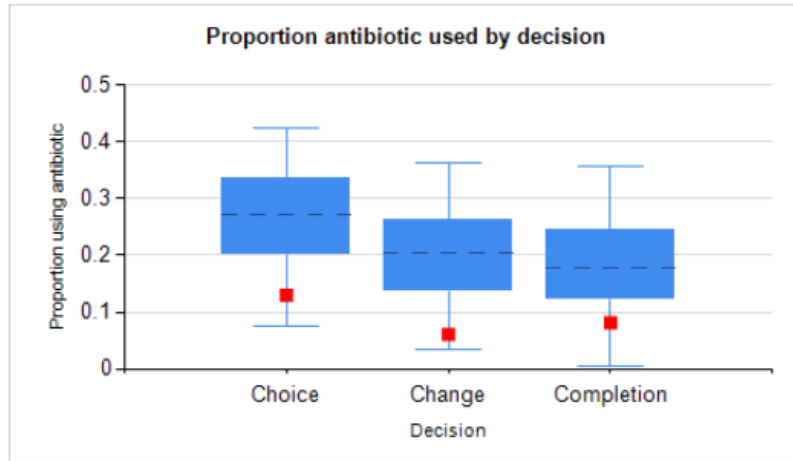
# Pneumonia Antibiotic Use by Choice Change Completion

## Hospital F: Acute Medical & Surgical Wards (2016)

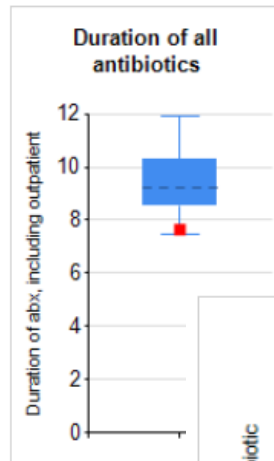


# Indication-Specific Antibiotic Use by Choice Change Completion

## Single Hospital Comparison to Other Sites



whiskers: 5th and 95th percentile  
box IQR  
dotted line: median  
Red dot: your facility

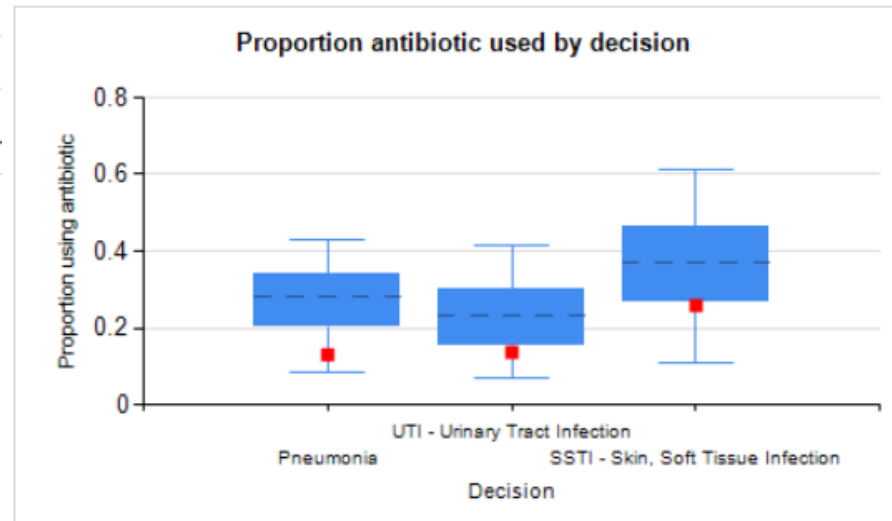


Parameters

Disease Context  
Pneumonia

Rx Norm CUI  
PIPERACILLIN/TAZOBACTAM

year  
2016



whiskers: 5th and 95th percentile  
box IQR  
dotted line: median  
Red dot: your facility

Parameters

Decision Context  
Choice

Rx Norm CUI  
PIPERACILLIN/TAZOBACTAM

year  
2016

sta6a  
[Dropdown]

Ward Acuity  
ICU, MedSurg

Complexity  
1a, 1b, 1c, 2, 3

Apply

# ANTIBIOTIC USE RISK ADJUSTMENT

No external goal for antibiotic use exists

- However, we know the goal *cannot* be zero

Metric benchmarking of antibiotic use can compare hospitals

- Helps when you cannot compare yourself to another hospital “exactly like you”
- Provides information on outliers
  - Outliers may represent inappropriate prescribing
  - High performers can be used to identify best practices
  - Need to adjust for confounding factors using statistical procedures to be most useful

# ANTIBIOTIC USE ADJUSTMENT

## Modifiable

- Implementation of guidelines
- Adherence to guidelines
- Antibiotic use policies
- Prescriber education
- Patient expectations

## Non-modifiable (at least not easily)

- Hospital bed-size
- ICU-beds
- Infectious diseases diagnoses
- Antibiotic resistance rates
- Case-mix index

Focus of benchmarking



# THE ROLE OF BENCHMARKING, AND ITS BARRIERS

## Advantages

- Identify strengths and weaknesses
- Realize what level(s) of performance is possible
- Establish new standards and goals
- Stimulate continuous quality improvement
- Drive innovative ideas and practical solutions

## Barriers

- Time and cost constraints
- Competitive barriers
- Lack of management commitment and professional human resources
- Resistance to change
- Short-term expectations

Describe predictive models that produce standardized use metrics

# NHSN AUR OPTION OVERVIEW

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Antibiotic Use and Resistance (AUR) Option

## National Objectives

- 1) Monitor and improve antimicrobial prescribing
- 2) Identify, understand, and respond to antimicrobial resistance patterns or trends

First real AU data uploaded into NHSN in July 2012 (retroactively 2011)

As of June 2017, 314 facilities submitted at least 1 month of data

# NHSN AU OPTION DETAILS

Currently voluntary participation

Data are based on medication administration data (not billing data) and Admission/Discharge/Transfer (ADT) systems

All data must be submitted electronically to the AU Module

Metric:

- Numerator: Days of Therapy per
- Denominator: 1,000 Patient Days Present

# STANDARDIZED ANTIBIOTIC ADMINISTRATION RATIO (SAAR)

First attempt at antibiotic use benchmarking

- Similar to the Standardized Infection Ratio
- Expresses observed antibiotic use compared to predicted use

The SAAR is risk adjusted based only on facility and location characteristics

- E.g. presence of ICUs, hospital size, teaching status, ward type
- Indirect standardization via negative binomial regression

In January, 2016 The Standardized Antibiotic Administration Ratio was endorsed by the National Quality Forum

- For public health surveillance and quality improvement only

# CDC SPECTRUM DEFINITIONS

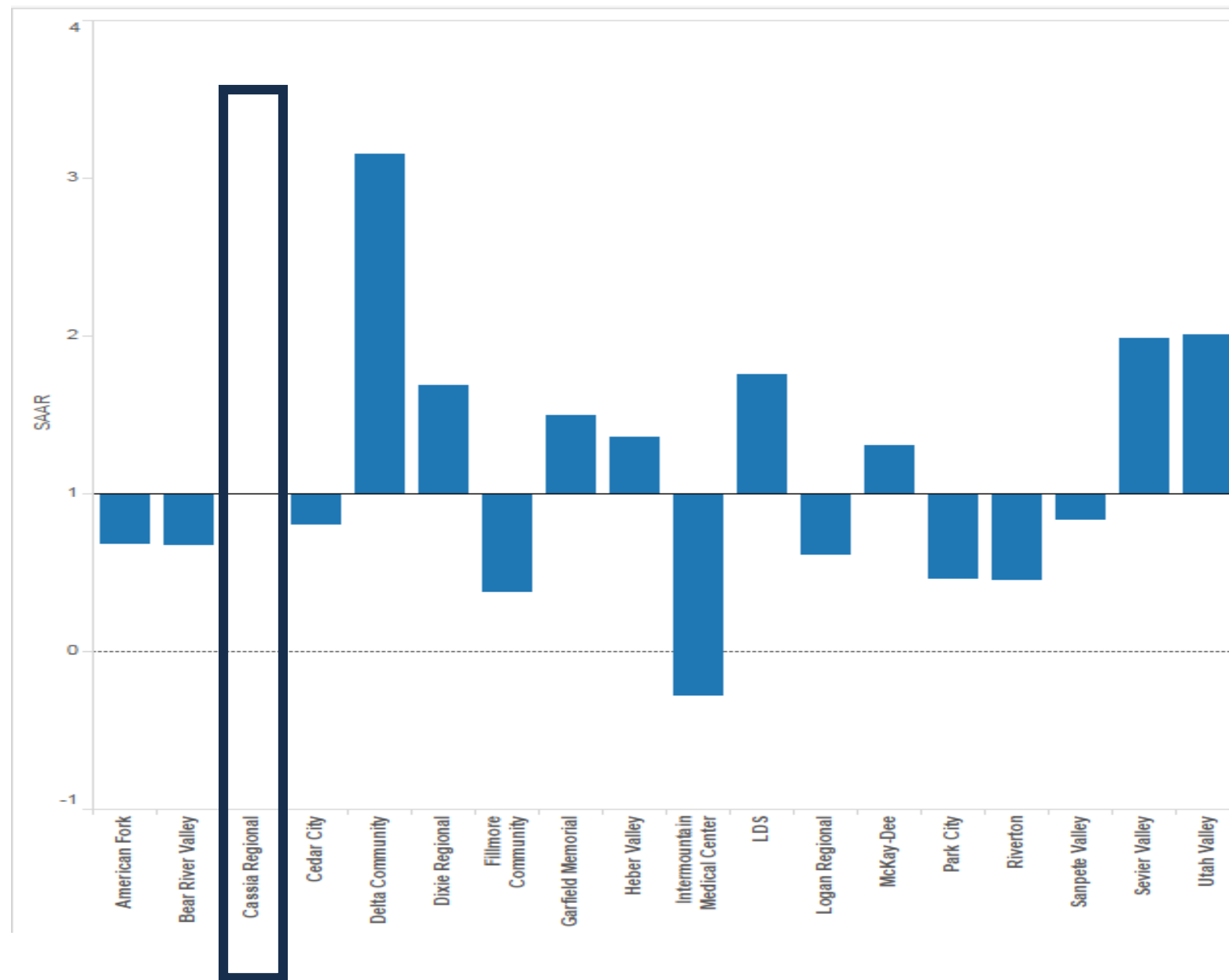
Broad spectrum agents predominantly used for		Anti-MRSA agents	Agents predominantly used for surgical site infection prophylaxis
hospital-onset/ multi-drug resistant bacteria	community-acquired infection		
aminoglycosides imi/meropenem cefepime/cefazidime $\beta$ -lactam/ $\beta$ LI (PsAr) aztreonam colistin/polymyxin tigecycline	ertapenem cefotaxime ceftriaxone ciprofloxacin levofloxacin moxifloxacin	ceftaroline dalba/oritavancin daptomycin line/tidezolid quinu/dalfopristin, telavancin vancomycin IV	cefazolin cefotetan cefoxitin cefuroxime IV

## SAARs CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

<b>All antimicrobials</b>	Medical and surgical ICUs and wards	
<b>Antimicrobials for hospital-onset/ multi-drug resistant infections</b>	M/S ICUs	M/S wards
<b>Antimicrobials used for community- onset infections</b>	M/S ICUs	M/S wards
<b>Anti-MRSA antimicrobials used</b>	M/S ICUs	M/S wards
<b>Antimicrobials used for surgical site infection prophylaxis</b>	Medical and surgical ICUs and wards	

# EXAMPLE SAARs

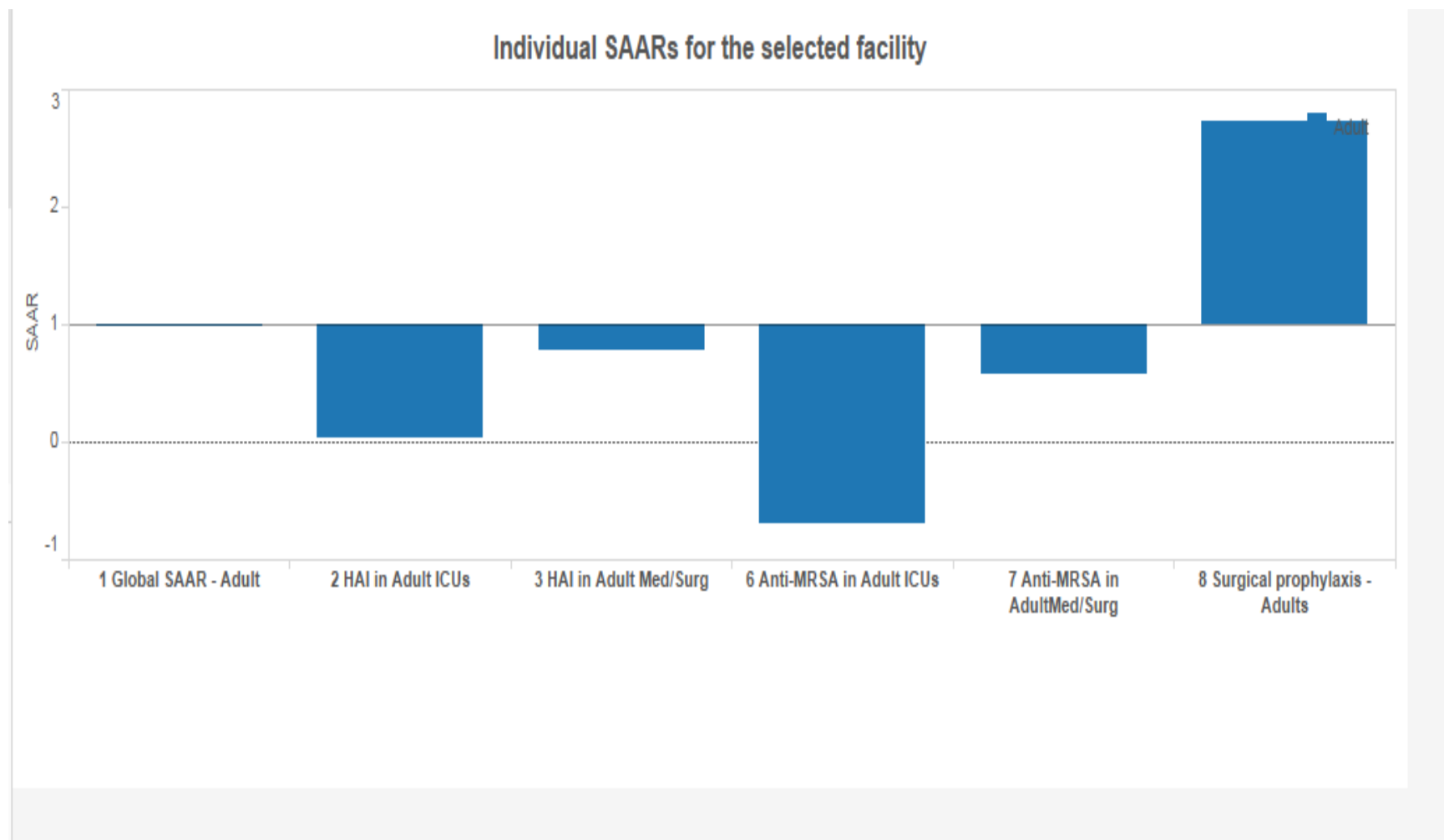
Facility-wide  
System-view





# EXAMPLE SAAR

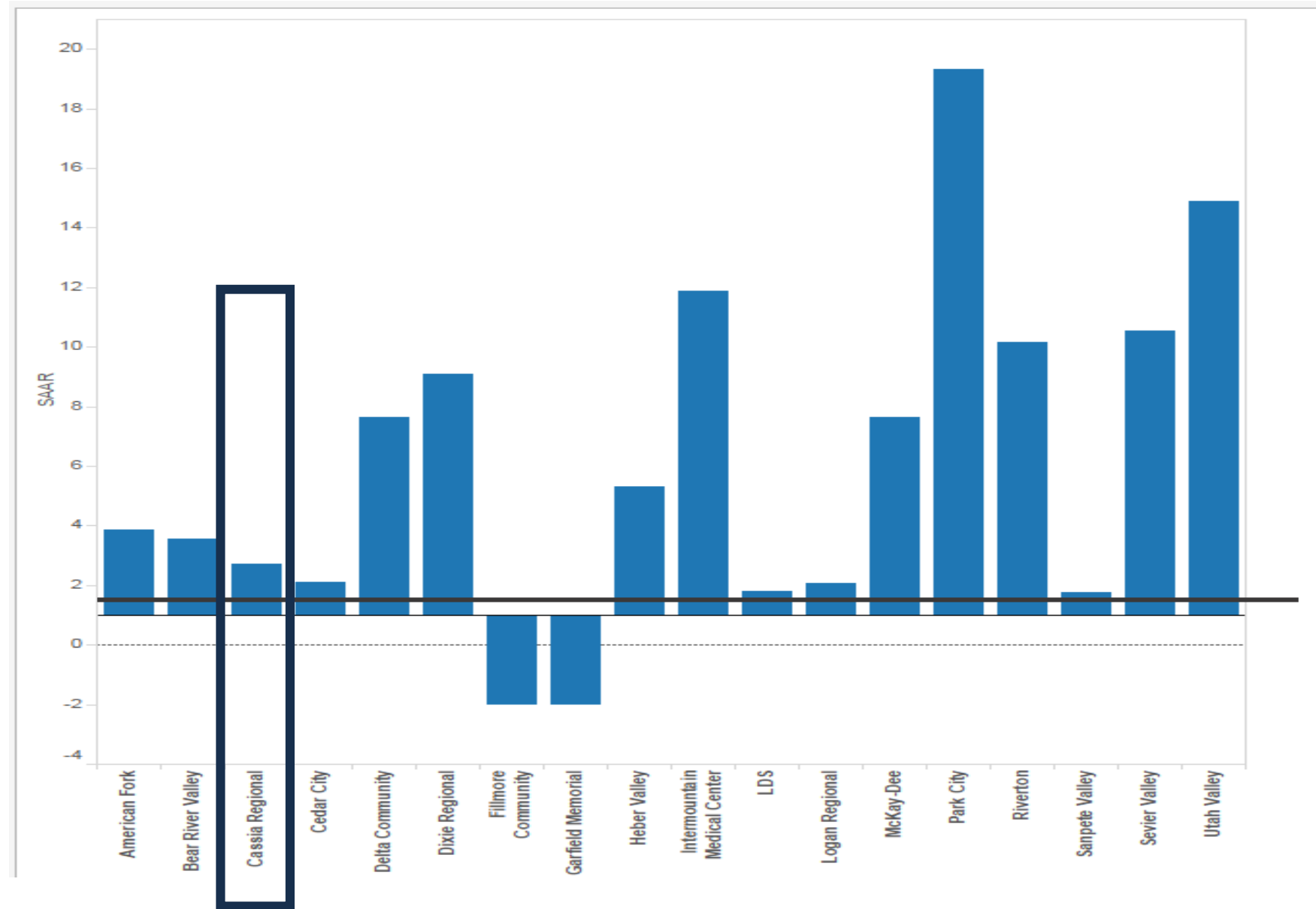
## Single Hospital Unit-level View



# EXAMPLE SAAR

## Surgical prophylaxis

- cefazolin
- cefotetan
- cefoxitin
- cefuroxime IV



# THE SAAR

## Strengths

- Largest comparison of antibiotic use across hospitals
- Adjustment for hospital-level characteristics
- Large denominator increases ability to detect statistically significant differences



## Limitations

- Floor type classifications
- No patient level diagnostic or microbiologic data in risk adjustment
- More hospitals needed
- Not linked to appropriateness



which may not be clinically meaningful

Image: <https://www.pinterest.de/explore/indiana-jones-holy-grail/>

# CONCLUSION

## Tailor your antimicrobial use metric to your intervention

- If general intervention, consider DOT per 1,000 patient days present

## Consider benchmarking in the evaluation of your stewardship program

- Either with SAAR or other measures of antimicrobial use
- To assess new areas for potential intervention or evaluate the impact of an occurring intervention, realizing that in some cases high use may be justified



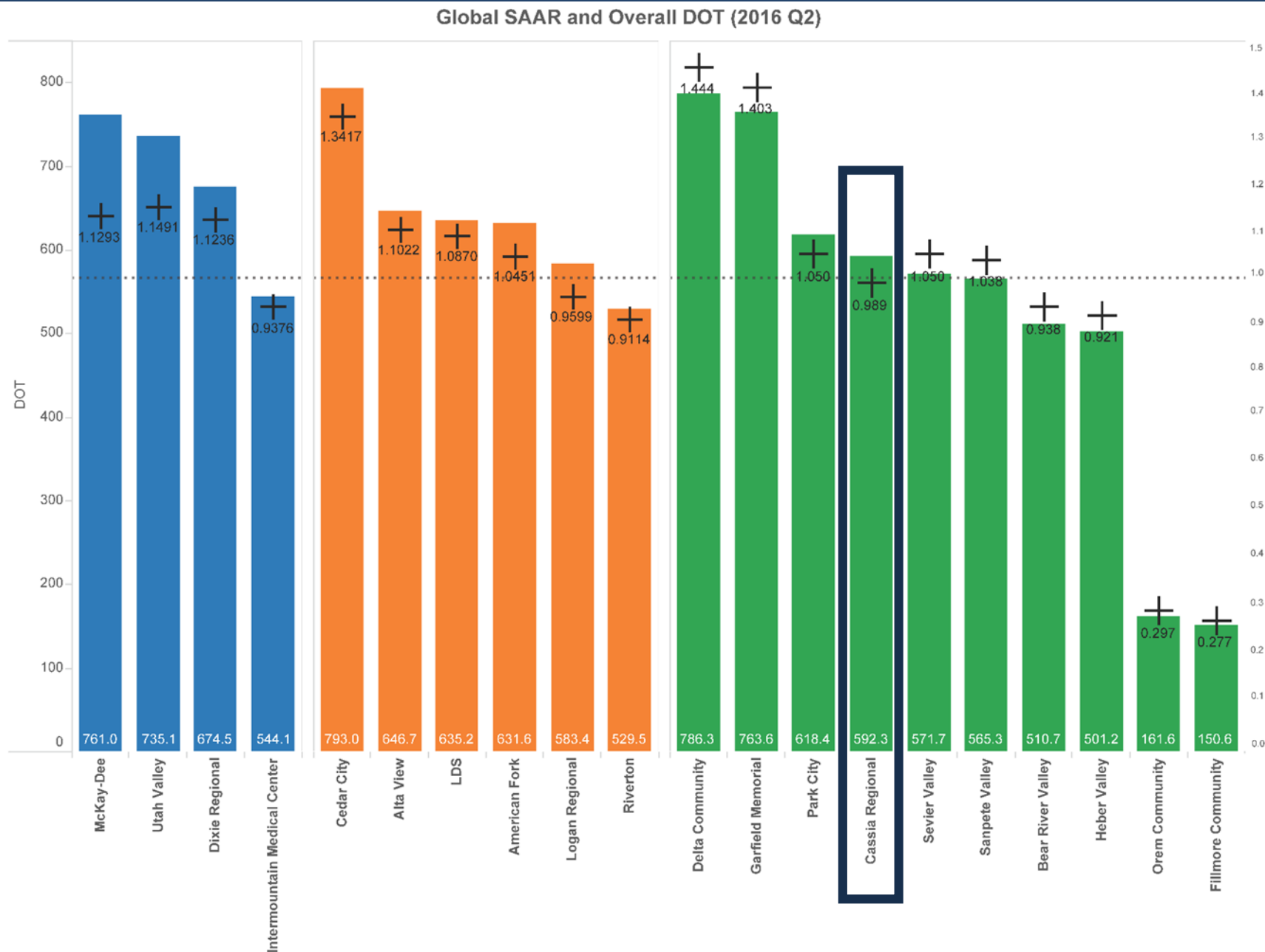
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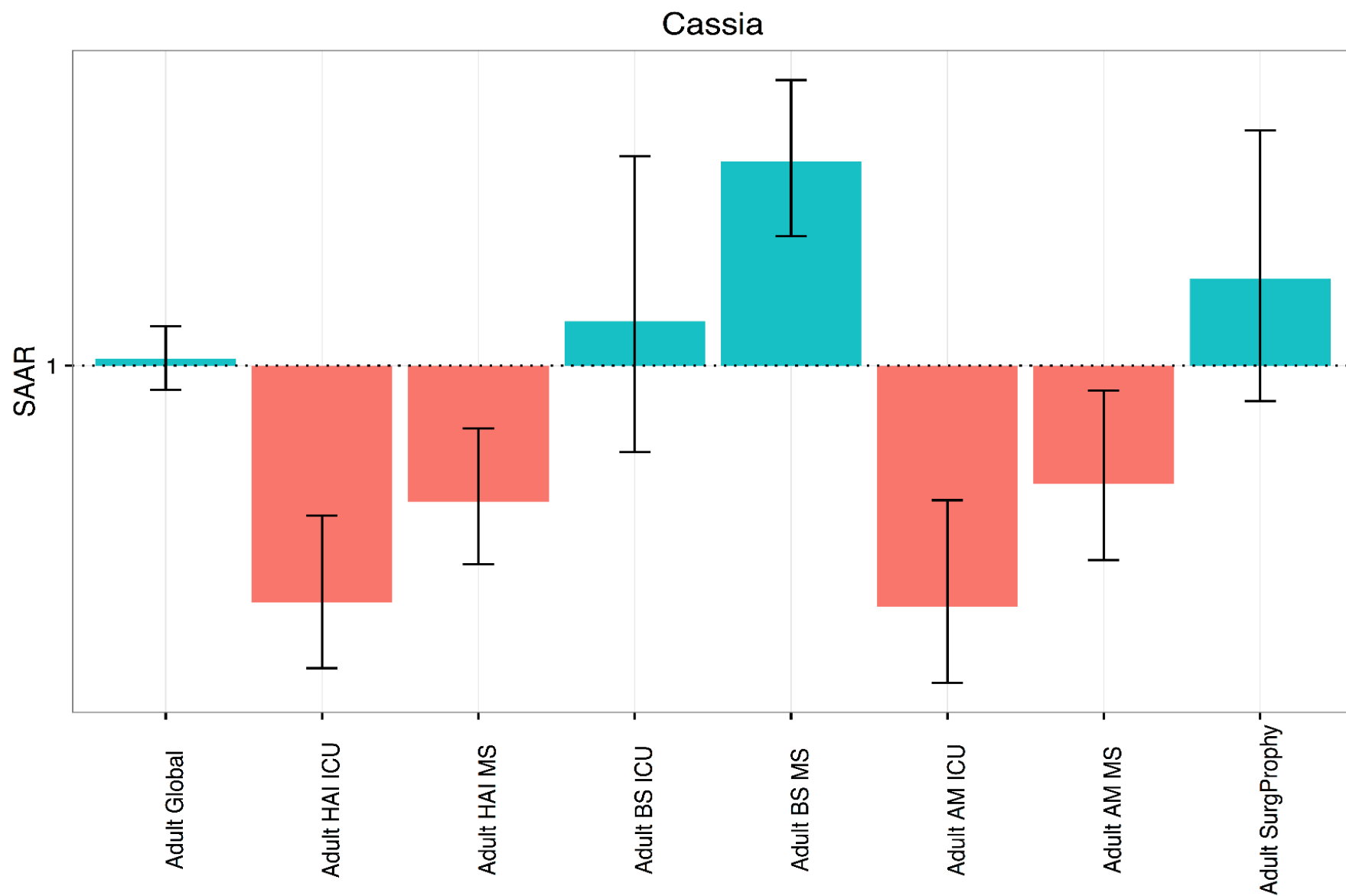
# EXAMPLE SAAR

Facility-wide  
System-view



# EXAMPLE SAAR

Single Hospital  
Unit-level View



# EXAMPLE SAAR

## Surgical prophylaxis

- cefazolin
- cefotetan
- cefoxitin
- cefuroxime IV

