

# Optimising antimicrobial prescribing: Challenges and solutions in diagnostic stewardship

Novel diagnostics for infectious diseases

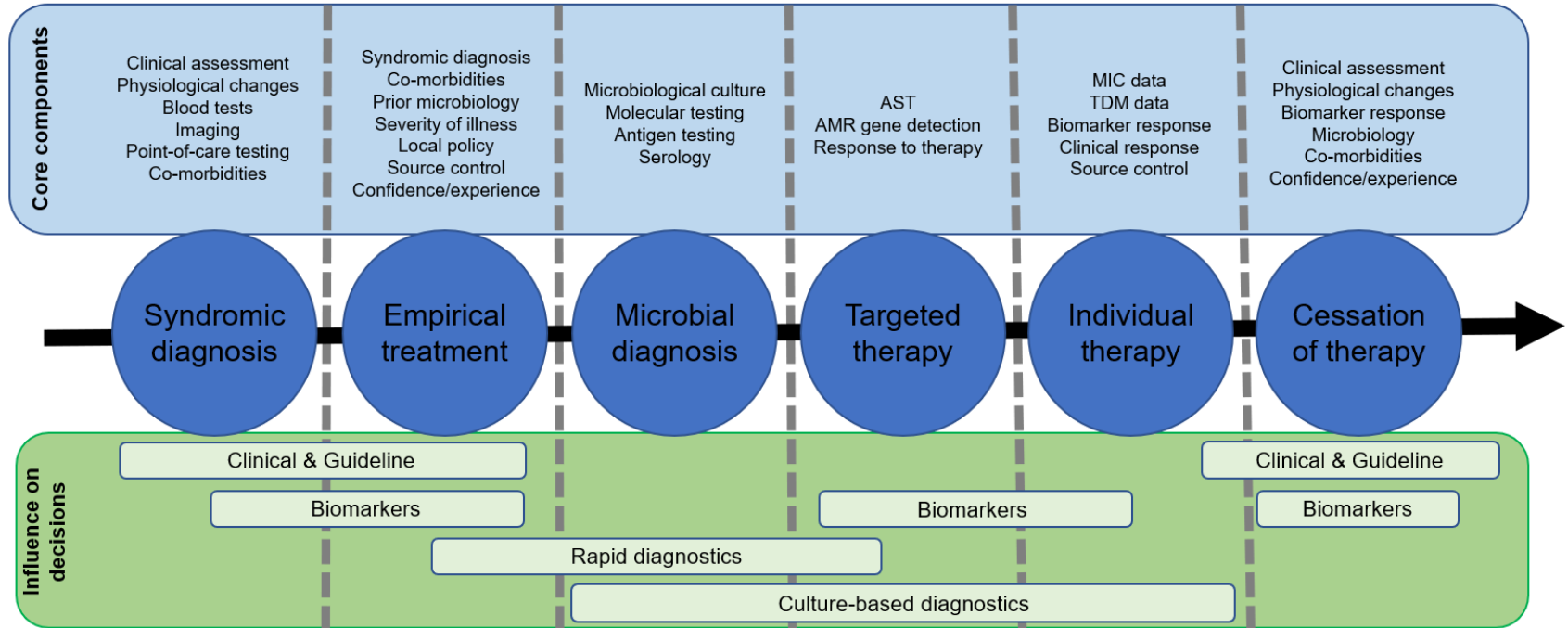
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# Microbiological diagnostics

- Novel technologies to support the diagnosis and management of infectious diseases are emerging at an exponential rate.
  - Diagnostics are important to help preserve the value of antimicrobials.
  - Globally, the adoption of novel diagnostics within antimicrobial stewardship programmes is low.
  - Generally, novel diagnostics remain undervalued.
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# Antimicrobial decision making



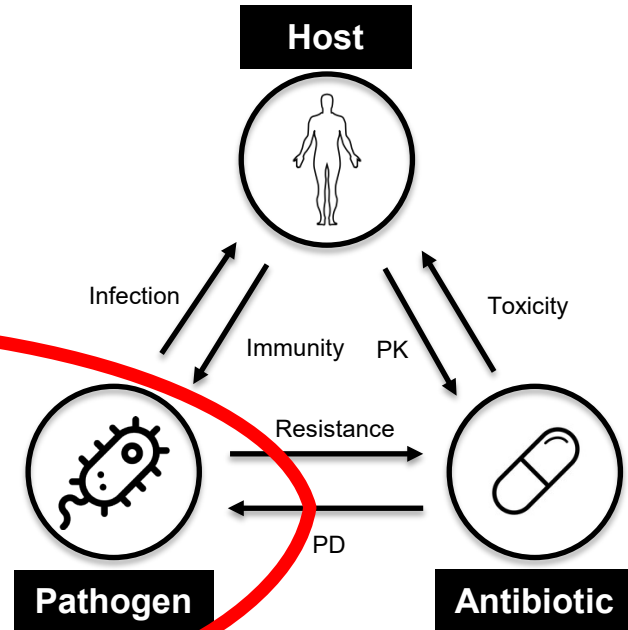
# Traditional focus of diagnostics in antimicrobial stewardship

## Challenge for microbiology:

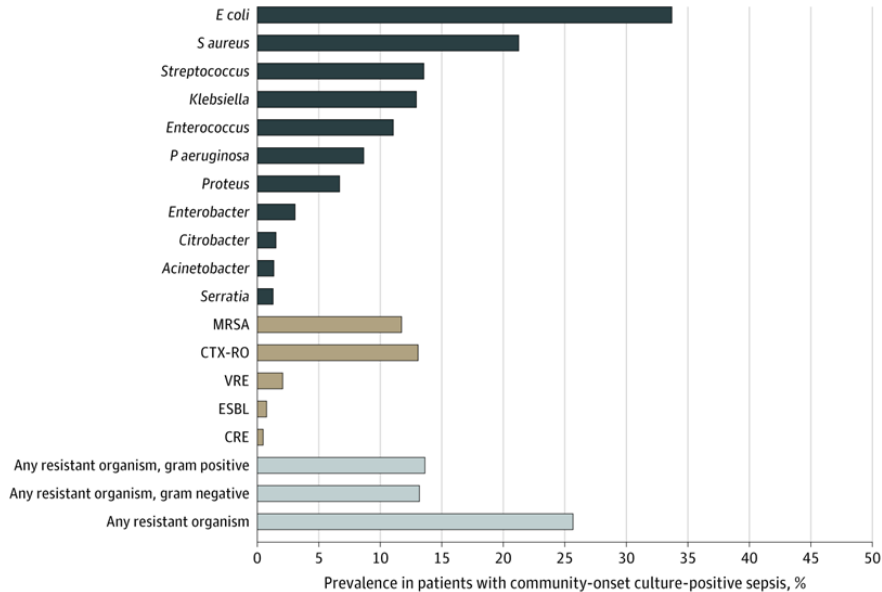
How do we deliver appropriate information in timely fashion to help influence decision making?

Organism identification  
Phenotypic antimicrobial susceptibility

## Optimal antimicrobial prescribing



## Community onset sepsis in the USA



17,430 patients admitted to hospital with culture confirmed sepsis in the USA.

### Inadequate spectrum:

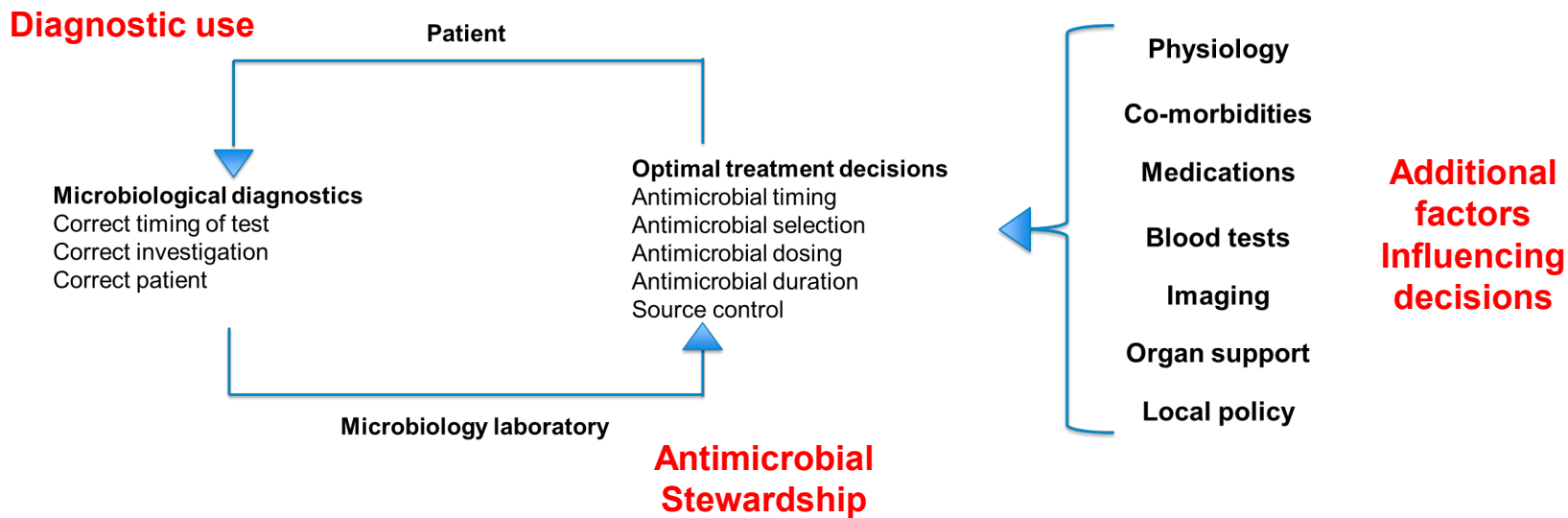
- In-hospital death increased (aOR:1.19; 95%CI:1.03-1.37)

### Unnecessarily broad spectrum:

- In-hospital death increased (aOR:1.22; 95%CI:1.06-1.40)
- *C. difficile* risk increased (aOR:1.26; 95%CI:1.01-1.57)
- AKI risk (aOR:1.12; 95%CI:1.00-1.26)

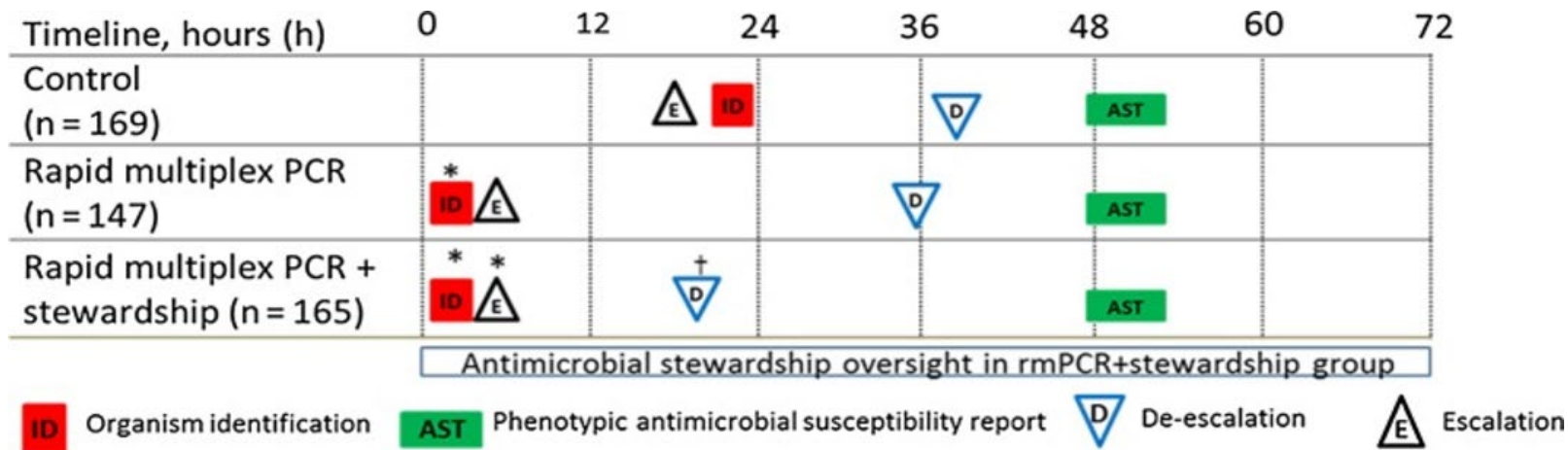
# Diagnostics support stewardship

- Interventions are unlikely to be used in isolation.
- Numerous factors influence decisions on optimal treatment.
- Understanding integration with current decision pathways is key to adoption and impact.



# Molecular diagnostics

## Blood stream infection management using rapid multiplex PCR



**Organism identification:**  
**Linked with stewardship:**  
**Reduced:**  
**No impact on:**

Shortened by more than 20-hours  
 Quicker treatment de-escalation  
 Broad spectrum antimicrobial use  
 Treatment of contaminants  
 Mortality, length of stay, or cost


# Impact of rapid AST on prescribing decisions

Authors	Method	Appropriate therapy	De-escalation	Clinical
<b>Beuving et al. 2015</b>	n = 129 FAST n = 121 SoC RCT GPC & GNR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19 hours faster (when used)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poor adoption</li> <li>No difference</li> </ul>
<b>Hogan et al 2020</b>	n = 671 GNB Pre – post quasi-exp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 hours faster</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 hours faster</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved stewardship</li> <li>Nil difference on clinical outcomes</li> </ul>
<b>Kim et al. 2021</b>	n = 56 rAST n = 60 SOC RCT Haem Malig with BSI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>34 hours faster</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>80% vs 57% appropriate within 72-hours.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not reported</li> </ul>
<b>Vazquez et al 2022</b>	n = 93 RAST n = 98 SOC GNB RCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19.5 hours faster to optimal</li> <li>18.5 hours faster to appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AG stopped 22 hours faster</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nil difference</li> </ul>
<b>Christensen et al. 2022</b>	n = 274 enrolled RCT rAST vs. SOC GN-BSI & source control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9 hours faster - not significant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>35-hours faster to oral therapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shorter length of stay – 2 days</li> </ul>
<b>Summary</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faster time to appropriate/optimal therapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce inappropriately broad therapy.</li> <li>Early switching</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited data</li> </ul>

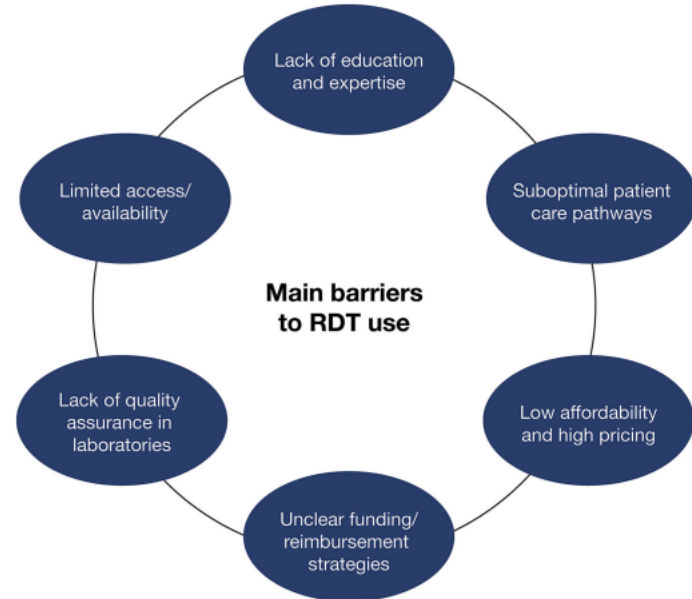


# Global barriers to use

## Rapid Diagnostic Test Value and Implementation in Antimicrobial Stewardship Across Low-to-Middle and High-Income Countries: A Mixed-Methods Review

Luke S. P. Moore  · Maria Virginia Villegas · Eric Wenzler · Timothy M. Rawson · Rita O. Oladele · Yohei Doi · Anucha Apisarnthanarak

- Variable regional requirements
- Barriers to implementation
- Lack of high-quality evidence to support use of rapid diagnostics
- Defining added value



**Fig. 1** Main barriers to use of RDTs, derived from EWG semi-structured interviews. *EWG* expert working group, *RDT* rapid diagnostic test



# Defining value beyond the individual

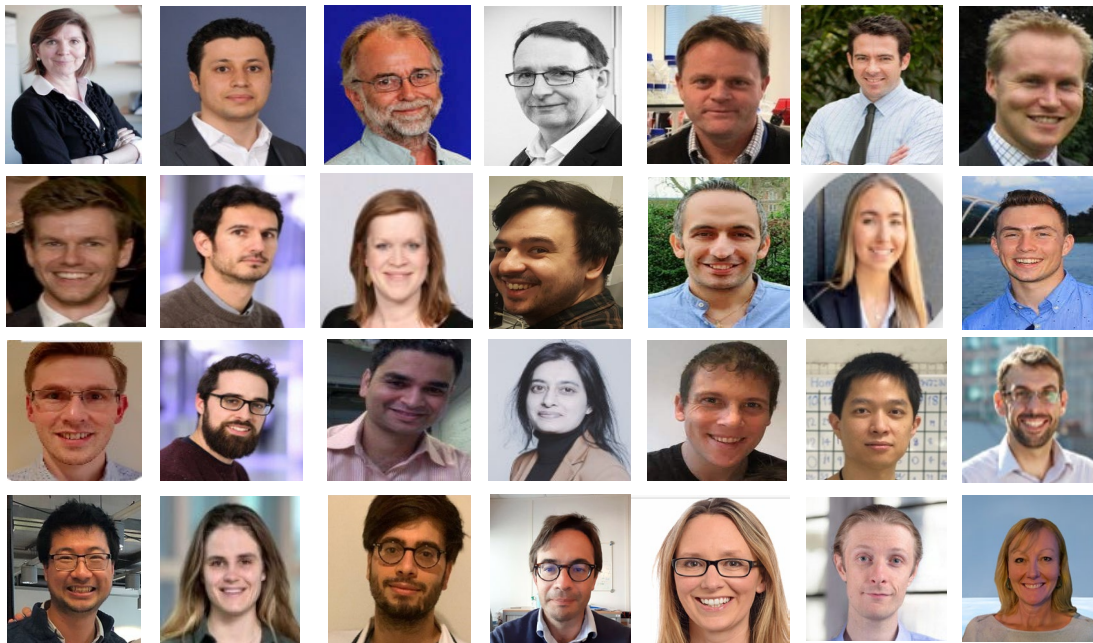
**Value framework modelled on STEDI principles used to evaluate the antimicrobial de-linkage pilot in England and consider value beyond the treated patient.**

<b>Value</b>	<b>Definition of benefit</b>
<b>Programme support</b>	Enable specific antimicrobial stewardship interventions and provision of meta-data for delineating key performance indicators
<b>Preserve</b>	Quantifiable changes in antimicrobial consumption, appropriateness of antimicrobial prescriptions, and potential antimicrobial resistance
<b>Practicable</b>	Impact on laboratory and clinical area sample flow (including logistics, information technology, and personnel) and patient flow (including admission avoidance, and length of stay) across LMIC and HIC settings
<b>Population health</b>	Quantifiable impact on population health through both impact on infection transmission and speed of return to work
<b>Precision</b>	Evaluable test performance characteristics which may supersede existing traditional laboratory 'gold standard' diagnostics



# Summary

- Novel diagnostics can potentially add significant value to stewardship programmes.
  - Paucity of global high-quality evidence for clinical and economic value.
  - Effective implementation strategies required to maximise adoption.
  - Evaluation against broader framework (5P) to define value beyond individual impact.
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