

# Arkansas Antibiotic Stewardship and Infection Prevention Collaborative *Kickoff*

Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018

University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College

Grand Hall

3000 West Scenic Drive

North Little Rock, AR 72118



**ARKANSAS**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



## Agenda

8 – 8:30 a.m.	<b>Registration</b>
8:30 – 9:15 a.m.	<b>State of the State</b> Arkansas Department of Health
9:15 – 9:45 a.m.	<b>Collaborative Kickoff</b> Mandy Palmer, RN, CPHQ, CPPS Outreach Services Manager, AFMC
9:45 – 10:30 a.m.	<b>Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship: What it Means to You</b> James Newton, MD, FACP, FIDSA, Infectious Disease Specialist Washington Regional Medical Center
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
10:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<b>Antibiotic Stewardship: Multidisciplinary Team Approach</b> Marsha Crader, PharmD, Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice UAMS College of Pharmacy <b>Panel:</b> Little Rock Post Acute and Rehabilitation Chicot Memorial Medical Center Baxter Regional Medical Center
12:30 – 1 p.m.	<b>Break for working lunch</b>
1 – 2:15 p.m.	<b>CDI and MDRO Prevention: Understanding the Guidelines</b> Pam Higdum, BSN, RN, CIC, Manager Infection Prevention Arkansas State Hospital
2:15 – 2:30 p.m.	<b>Break</b>
2:30 – 4 p.m.	<b>Arkansas Care Transition (ACT): A Focus on Infection Prevention</b> Melodie Zipfel, MSN, RN Outreach Specialist, AFMC
4 – 4:30 p.m.	<b>Wrap-up, Discussion and Questions</b> Mandy Palmer, RN, CPHQ, CPPS Outreach Services Manager, AFMC
4:30 p.m.	<b>Dismiss</b>

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## Our Speakers:

### James Newton, MD, FACP, FIDSA

Dr. Newton has been the director of antibiotic stewardship for more than six years at a 425-bed community hospital in Northwest Arkansas. He is very involved with infection control at the local and state level. He serves as chairman of the Arkansas Department of Health's antibiotic stewardship subcommittee. Dr. Newton was in private practice for 12 years in Southeast Virginia specializing in infectious diseases. He practiced for 13 years prior to serving as an infectious disease physician with the U.S. Navy. Dr. Newton attended the University of Arkansas double-majoring in chemistry and zoology with an honors degree in biochemistry. He graduated from UAMS in 1987, completing his internal medicine residency at the Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Va. He completed an infectious diseases fellowship at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego.



### Marsha Crader, PharmD

In addition to teaching pharmacy practice at UAMS College of Pharmacy, Dr. Crader is the lead antimicrobial stewardship pharmacist at St. Bernards Medical Center in Jonesboro. Her work includes improving health care processes and provider knowledge to result in a positive impact on patient outcomes in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. Dr. Crader is involved at the state level as a member of the Arkansas Department of Health's antimicrobial stewardship subcommittee and is the chair of the Arkansas Association of Health-System Pharmacists' Antimicrobial Stewardship Task Force.



### Pam Higdem BSN, RN, CIC

Ms. Higdem is an infection preventionist with more than 30 years' experience. She completed her BSN from the Baptist College of Health Sciences, in Memphis, Tenn., and earned a Certification in Public Health from the Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health in Little Rock. After a 30-year career at the VA Medical Center in Little Rock where she served as the infection preventionist for 27 years, she took a six-month retirement and then began work as the director of the infection prevention program at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. She has maintained certification in infection control since 1995. Ms. Higdem's expertise in high-level disinfection/sterilization led her to perform visits, teach and complete inspections in 10 VA Medical Centers between 2009-2013. She has served in several leadership positions in the state APIC chapter. She is employed in the role of infection prevention at the Arkansas State Hospital, a 220-bed behavioral health facility.



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