

Supplementary Table 1. Survey for medical staff perception about ASP in EOL care

Contents of survey
1. This survey is used for research purposes. Do you agree with the survey?
☐ Yes ☐ No
2. What is your gender?
□ Female □ Male
3. How old are you? (Write in numbers)
Answer:
4. What is your occupation?
☐ 1 st -year resident ☐ 2 nd -year resident ☐ 3 rd -year resident
☐ Internal medicine specialist (hospitalist) ☐ Internal medicine specialist (non-hospitalist)
5. How much do you know about the antibiotic stewardship program (ASP)?
(ASP is an intervention activity that supports optimal use of antibiotics, including medication, duration of treatment, and route of administration)
☐ Fully aware ☐ Aware ☐ Neutral ☐ Do not know ☐ Unaware at all
6. How much do you know about the advantages of ASP?
(ASP can improve patients' treatment outcomes, reduce <i>Clostridioides difficile</i> infections, reduse adverse drug reactions, reduse medical costs, and reduce antibiotic resistance.)
☐ Fully aware ☐ Aware ☐ Neutral ☐ Do not know ☐ Unaware at all
7. Do you think ASP is important in patients with end-of-life (EOL)?
☐ Strongly important ☐ Important ☐ Neutral ☐ Do not matter ☐ Strongly do not matter
☐ Do not consider it so far
8 Do you consider the use or cessation of antibiotics for patients with EOL when writing POLST?
□ Strongly yes □ Yes □ Neutral □ No □ Strongly no
9. Do you explain to the patient (or caregivers) about the use or cessation of antibiotics when writing POLST?
☐ Yes ☐ No
10. Do you adjust the antibiotics after POLST?
☐ Yes ☐ No
11. Who has the most significant impact on determining antibiotics use after POLST? ☐ Medical staff ☐ Patient ☐ Caregiver
12. Do you think blood culture tests are needed after POLST?
□ Strongly agree □ Agree □ Neutral □ Disagree □ Strongly disagree
13. What should you do if an infectious condition could not be ruled out after POLST?
\square No blood culture tests, no antibiotics \square No blood culture tests, immediate antibiotics use or change
☐ Blood culture tests start, immediate antibiotics use or change ☐ Blood culture tests start, check the result first
14. Why do you maintain using antibiotics or replace them with broad-spectrum antibiotics after POLST?
☐ I am not 100% sure about the prognosis of the dying phase
☐ I want to give the impression of "healing as much as possible" instead of the impression of "giving up"
☐ I think antibiotics can postpone the course of death
☐ I think antibiotics can relieve the pain due to infection
☐ Antibiotic treatment burden is not excessive (e.g., route of administration, frequency, side effects, cost)
☐ It seems that the hospital where I work encourages the use of antibiotics in EOL patients
☐ There is a request from the patient to continue antibiotic treatment in the EOL situation
☐ There is a request from caregivers to continue antibiotic treatment in the EOL situation



Supplementary Table 1. Continued

Contents of survey
☐ There is a request from medical staff to continue antibiotic treatment in the EOL situation
☐ Others (You can fill out the blank below)
15. Why would you stop or de-escalate antibiotics after POLST?
\square It is judged antibiotics no longer treat infections in the POLST status
\square I think it can reduce the occurrence of antimicrobial resistance (e.g., multi-resistance bacteria)
☐ I am worried about <i>Clostridioides difficile</i> infection
\square I am concerned about systemic or local antibiotic side effects (e.g., azotemia, urticaria)
☐ Antibiotic treatment burden is excessive
(e.g., frequency and route of administration, measurement of drug concentration)
☐ I want to reduce the cost of using antibiotics for patients.
☐ There is a request from the patient to stop antibiotic treatment in the EOL situation
☐ There is a request from caregivers to stop antibiotic treatment in the EOL situation
☐ There is a request from medical staff to stop antibiotic treatment in the EOL situation
☐ Others (You can fill out the blank below)

ASP, antimicrobial stewardship programs; EOL, end-of-life; POLST, physician orders for life-sustaining treatment.