**Antibiotic-Associated Adverse Events (ABX-AEs) Focus Group Guide**

*The following guide is intended to direct the focus group discussion. Questions to facilitate discussion are listed below, but do not necessarily need to be asked. Additional points of interest that arise during the discussion that are not covered in the focus group guide can be explored further at the discretion of the moderator.*

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Study overview
   * Describe overarching study
     + This study is a part of a larger study to develop and validate an electronic approach to identifying and quantifying ABX-AEs, and assess the impact of ABX-AE feedback on prescribing behavior
   * Review objectives of this specific study
     + Understand the role of ABX-AEs in antibiotic decision-making
     + Identify ABX-AEs of greatest clinical concern
     + Understand preferences of end-users regarding ABX-AE data feedback
   * Funding disclosure
     + This specific study was funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
     + Related work that is part of the overarching study was funded by both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration
   * Announcements
     + Inform participants that in order protect confidentiality, comments of individual participants should not be discussed after leaving the session, and names of participants or other identifying information should not be used during the discussion
     + Inform participants that this session will be recorded and transcribed
3. Participant Consent

* Review oral consent document
* Obtain oral consent from each participant

1. Demographics poll
   * Inform participants that we will conduct a demographics poll and they do not have to answer any questions they do not wish to answer
   * Start recording once poll is completed
2. Discussion of the role ABX-AEs play in antibiotic decision-making
   * Inform participants that the first section of the focus group session will focus on discussing the role of ABX-AEs in clinical decision-making when prescribing antibiotics
   * Start with an open ended question to initiate the discussion
     + What role do ABX-AEs play in your clinical decision-making when prescribing antibiotics?
   * Use the following questions to facilitate discussion if needed
     + To what extent do you take into consideration the possibility of ABX-AEs when you decide what antibiotics to prescribe?
     + How do you weigh the risks and benefits of antibiotic prescribing?
     + What is your approach to clinical management once an ABX-AE has occurred?
     + How often do you think ABX-AEs occur?
     + Which ABX-AEs do you think are the most common?
     + How often do you review recent cases to see if patients had adverse events related to antibiotics you prescribed?
3. Discussion of ABX-AEs of greatest clinical concern
   * Inform participants that the second section of the focus group session will focus on discussing the level of clinical concern for various ABX-AEs
   * Screen share the ranking document with a list of ABX-AEs with prespecified categorizations
   * Inform participants that we will go through each ABX-AE in the ranking document and ask for participants to vote for how they would categorize the ABX-AE, although they can refrain from voting at any time
   * Note that there is no within group ranking for the pre-specified ABX-AE categorizations
   * Use the following questions to facilitate discussion if needed
     + What factors determine if the specific ABX-AE is more clinically concerning?
     + Would you add any ABX-AE to this list and what category would you place it in?
4. Discussion regarding end-users preferences for ABX-AE feedback
   * Inform participants that the final section of the focus group session will focus on discussing their preferences for feedback regarding ABX-AEs
   * Start with an open-ended question to initiate the discussion
     + How would receiving feedback on ABX-AEs affect your clinical decision making when prescribing antibiotics?
   * Use the following questions to facilitate discussion if needed
     + How do you currently receive feedback about ABX-AEs?
     + What ABX-AEs would you like feedback about?
     + How would you prefer to receive feedback about ABX-AEs (e.g., reports by email, via a dashboard, interaction with the approval pager, etc.)?
     + Would you prefer to receive feedback about antibiotic use and ABX-AEs at the provider level, the unit level, or the service level?
     + Would you prefer data displayed (e.g., rates, percentages, or raw numbers)?
     + How often would you prefer to receive feedback about antibiotic use and ABX-AEs?
     + Would it be helpful to be informed of the identity of patients who experienced ABX-AEs?
     + Would it be helpful to have information about the certainty of the association between the antibiotic and the suspected ABX-AE (i.e., possible, probable, or definite)?
     + Do you have any concerns about receiving ABX-AE feedback?
5. Closing remarks
   * Ask participants if they have any additional points they wish to discuss
   * Thank participants for their time and sharing their perspectives
   * Provide study team contact information