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BACKGROUND

- Antibiotics are commonly prescribed to nursing home (NH) residents in the absence of a bacterial infection
- Antibiotic use increases NH residents' risk for serious adverse events
- Little is known of NH resident perspectives of the benefits and risks to antibiotic use

PURPOSE

 Describe NH resident perspectives of the benefits and risks related to antibiotic use

METHODS

- In-depth semi-structured interviews conducted with NH residents residing in a large 845-bed NH facility
- Interview data analyzed using conventional convent analysis

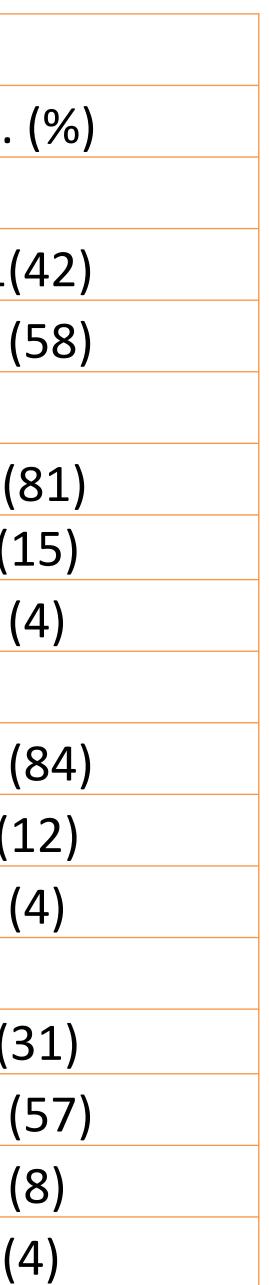
RESULTS

• Twenty-six NH residents participated in semi-structured interviews; mean age, 76 (Table)

Table. Characteristics of Study Participants

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		No.
Sex		
	Male	11(
	Female	15 (
Race		
	White	21(
	Black or African American	4 (1
	Not Provided	1 (
Ethnicity		
	Non-Hispanic	22 (
	Hispanic	3 (2
	Not Provided	1 (
Education		
	High School Graduate/GED	8 (3
	College	15 (
	Master's Degree	2 (
	Not Provided	1(-

Unmet Informational Needs among Nursing Home Residents Receiving Antibiotics: Qualitative Study Findings



THEME 1: VARIED INVOLVEMENT IN ANTIBIOTIC TREATMENT DECISIONS

- **Requesting or Demanding Antibiotics:** Participants described "knowing" their bodies and when they needed antibiotics
- Leaving it to Prescribers: Participants described a hands-off approach to antibiotic use

THEME 2: PERCEIVED BENEFITS AND RISKS TO ANTIBIOTIC USE

- **Benefits:** Symptom relief and cure were described as antibiotic benefits
- **Risks:** Risks of antibiotics were commonly poorly described

THEME 3: UNMET INFORMATIONAL NEEDS

- **Insufficient Information Provided**: Participants described a lack of antibiotic-related information provided by care team
- **Memory Challenges**: Participants described difficulty recalling conversations in which care team members described specifics regarding antibiotic prescription

THEME 4: OVERCOMING INFORMATIONAL NEEDS

- **Obtaining Information:** Participants themselves or their family members actively researched antibiotic prescriptions to obtained desired information
- **Suggestions for Future**: Participants described the benefit of having written material regarding antibiotic prescriptions and provided information that would be helpful
- We found NH residents had unmet information needs regarding their antibiotic treatment plans and desired to be further engaged in their antibiotic treatment

THEMATIC FINDINGS

"I know if I have something, I need to have an antibiotic right away and they gave me a little bit of a hard time because they said we'll have to wait to see how you do and I said I'm not waiting. I need the antibiotic now."

"If they are taking care of it and they are giving it to me, I wouldn't care. They know when to give it to me"

"Well, antibiotics is good to kill any infections you have. Like if you have a tooth, a gum, like an infection in your mouth, that's good for that."

"Has there been, like, serious illness as a result of antibiotics?"

"They don't tell you nothing about what you're going to take other than 'This is good for you'

"When they tell me things [about antibiotics]...I remember them at the time they tell them to me, but then later I forget them."

"If they give me an antibiotic or anything, I'll look it up on the computer."

"Find out how long of a period I am going to take it" "What kind of side effects can I expect from this?" ""Will [drug] mix well with all my other medications?"

Discussion

Study results will lay the foundation for tools that facilitate NH resident engagement in their antibiotic treatment plans

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Requesting Antibiotics

Leaving it up to Prescribers

Benefits of Antibiotics

Risks of Antibiotics

Insufficient Information Provided

Memory

Obtaining Information

Suggestions for Future

