Visual Abstract

Trends in Outpatient Antibiotic Use in Adults >65 years in Ontario from 2000 to 2023

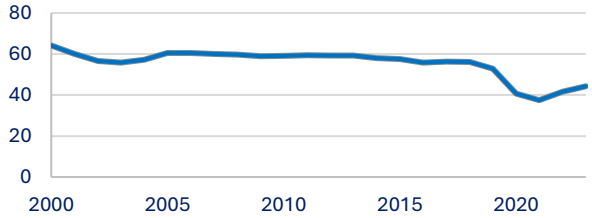
Methods

DESIGN
Population-based retrospective evaluation over **28 million antibiotic prescriptions** from 2000 to 2023

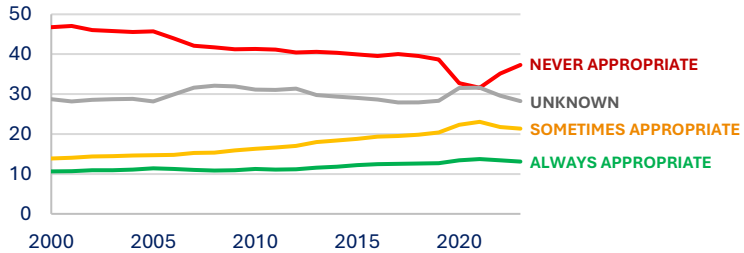
APPROPRIATENESS ASSESSMENT
Based on billing codes, prescriptions were classified as **always**, **sometimes**, and **never** requiring antibiotics, or **unknown** appropriateness

ANALYSIS
Reporting of antibiotic prescriptions per 100 person years and proportions of prescriptions classified by appropriateness

Trends in Prescribing



Overall antibiotic prescribing rates declined from 64 to 44 prescriptions per 100 person-years



Proportion of prescriptions classified as never appropriate declined from 46.7% to 37.3%

Schwartz KL, et al. Appropriateness of Antibiotic Use for Individuals >65 Years of Age: A Population-wide Analysis. CMI Communications. 2026.

CIHR IRSC Canadian Institutes of Health Research / Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

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