Stanford MEDICINE Children's Health | **CORIZA** Clinical Optimization of Respiratory Infections: Zeroing in on Antibiotics

PCHA Express Lane FAQ

What is an Express Lane?

As part of a quality improvement effort, the SMCH Antimicrobial Stewardship Program partnered with PCHA clinical leadership to develop Express Lanes for common acute respiratory tract infections. Express Lanes are streamlined, diagnosis-specific SmartSets in Epic designed to support efficient, guideline-aligned care for these conditions.

They bundle orders, patient instructions, coding, and evidence-based recommendations into a single workflow to:
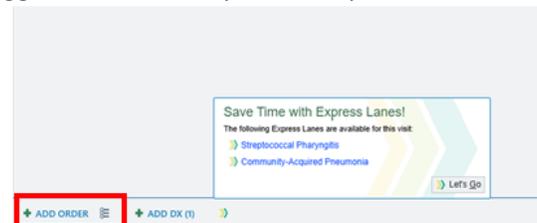
- Reduce clicks and cognitive load
- Promote consistent, high-quality care across sites
- Align prescribing with institutional guidelines
- Support quality metrics and stewardship goals

The FAQ below addresses the most common questions raised during early implementation and includes links to the relevant sections of the Express Lane demo video.

1. **How do I access an Express Lane?**
   There are two ways to open an Express Lane:

   - **Automated Suggestions**: Express Lanes may be suggested based on the chief complaint or certain lab results. Suggestions are intentionally limited to ensure relevance and minimize distraction. If the chief complaint does not match mapped terms, an Express Lane may not be suggested. Additionally, if the patient's final diagnosis doesn't match an Express Lane condition, it's ok to ignore the suggestion and not open the Express Lane.
   - **Manual Search**: Use "ADD ORDER" in the lower left corner and type in your term of interest (e.g., "sinusitis," "ABRS," "CAP," or "amoxicillin").

2. **How do I pin an Express Lane to my SmartSets Favorites?**
   You can add frequently used Express Lanes to your SmartSets Favorites so they are easy to access, even when not automatically suggested. Search for the Express Lane, right-click on the name, and select "Add to Favorites." It will then appear in your SmartSets Favorites for quick launch.

3. **Where can I access the clinical algorithms behind the Express Lanes?**
   Each Express Lane follows a consistent structure and includes a hyperlink to the associated evidence-based clinical algorithm. The algorithm explains the rationale behind the recommendations, outlines diagnostic criteria and treatment pathways, and includes links to key studies and guidelines.
   Algorithm links: AOM | CAP | Sinusitis | Strep Pharyngitis

4. **Do I have to use the Viral URI Express Lane to receive quality incentive credit?**
   No. The quality incentive is based on use of the Express Lane when prescribing antibiotics for ARTIs, not on opening an Express Lane every time one is suggested. For visits where antibiotics aren't prescribed, including many viral URI visits, use of the Express Lane is optional and not required for the incentive.

5. **How can I get more help?**
   Training materials: Tip sheet and timestamped short demo video available on the intranet.
   Support options:
   - Email: corizaproject@stanford.edu
   - Submit feedback via QR code (REDCap form)
   - Office hours with physician Epic builder: Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, by appointment only
   - In-person support available by request