**Antibiotic stewardship** is a strategy to combat the development of antibiotic resistance, and includes a variety of activities that aim to promote the appropriate use of antibiotics.

This thesis describes the IMPACT study, which started with an investigation of the appropriateness of antibiotic prescribing in Dutch nursing homes and residential care facilities. The study results were used to develop tailored interventions directed at improving appropriate antibiotic prescribing in these long-term care facilities. Finally, the effect of the tailored interventions on the appropriateness of antibiotic prescribing was evaluated.

The IMPACT study has provided a better understanding of the complex topic of antibiotic prescribing in long-term care facilities. Based on this understanding, several recommendations for practice and research are described in this thesis. These can be regarded as a first step toward antibiotic stewardship initiatives in long-term care facilities in the Netherlands.

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