



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Health systems, medical products and innovation  
**Performance of national health systems**

## **Expert Panel on effective ways of investing in health**

### **Drafting group on Managing antimicrobial resistance across the health system (Virtual meeting)**

**26 April 2022**

Draft Minutes

#### **1. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved without changes. The minutes of the previous meeting of 1 April 2022 have been approved and will be published on the Expert Panel website.

#### **2. Nature of the meeting**

The fifth drafting group meeting on ‘managing antimicrobial resistance across the health system’ took place on 26 April 2022 via MS Teams. The meeting, which was chaired by Professor Jan De Maeseneer, Chair of the drafting group, was a non-public meeting.

No declarations of interest that could interfere with the topic discussed were submitted by any member.

#### **3. Points discussed**

##### **Feedback/comments on the draft opinion**

A draft opinion was sent to the participants prior to the meeting. The Chair and rapporteurs gave an overview of the main elements and of the progress on sub chapters.

Under the chapter on AMR and its impact, rapporteurs pointed at changes and adjustments considering AMR attributable deaths. They mentioned additional indicators and data available on antibiotic consumption in Europe. Members stressed that differences between regions along the north-south as well as the west-east division must be taken into consideration.

Members further discussed how to fine-tune the suggested framework for policy interventions and elaborated on the factors associated with AMR in the health system such as patients, physicians, health centres, health R&D, and public health, stressing the interactions between them.

Some members suggested to elaborate more on the evaluation of reimbursement strategies on the use of antibiotics to control the prescription rate.

Rapporteurs gave an overview of evidence-based interventions at the health system level to tackle AMR together with opportunities and challenges they present. They also touched upon their effectiveness and cost-effectiveness.

Under the chapter on policy analysis, the WHO Global Action Plan was discussed as well as national AMR policies in Europe and the European Commission's One Health Action Plan.

Members stressed the importance of implementation of national action plans and suggested using implementation science to guide the implementation with following steps i) build health information technology to support data-informed quality improvement (QI), ii) build QI capacity and improve outcomes, iii) enhance clinician and practice member knowledge, iv) build connections across the health system.

Members raised several issues, among others the importance of identifying gaps in implementation, mapping existing capacities, skills and processes that would help implement existing policies. They pointed at a lack of data on how different policies are working in practice as well as on a missing legal and regulatory framework for primary care to enable point of care testing. Members stressed that a multi-factorial approach is needed, with more emphasis on application and on practical actions.

Members briefly discussed possible recommendations suggested by individual members targeted at primary and secondary care providers, national authorities and health funders. The recommendations will be further elaborated in the next meeting.

#### **4. Conclusion**

Rapporteurs will provide a new draft by 10 May. Members agreed to provide their contributions for specific sub-sections of a draft opinion as well as suggestions for recommendations prior to the next meeting of the drafting group. The Chair thanked everyone for their active participation and for the valuable discussion.

#### **5. Next meeting**

The next meeting of the drafting group is scheduled for 16 May 2022 via MS Teams.

#### **6. List of participants**

**EXPH members:** Professor Jan De Maeseneer, Dr Anna Garcia-Altes, Professor Damien Gruson, Dr Dionne Kringos, Professor Lasse Lehtonen, Professor Christos Lionis, Professor Martin McKee (apologies), Professor Liubove Murauskiene, Dr Heather-Lynn Rogers, Professor Luigi Siciliani, Dr Jelka Zaletel

**Invited external private expert:** Professor An De Sutter

**Representatives from the European Commission (DG SANTE: B1, G5)**

**Representative from ECDC (apologies)**