



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Challenge in Research and Risk Assessment Field

Joint Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance:
State of Play of the 5-year action plan against the rising threat of
Antimicrobial Resistance

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Question 1. Do we need a global research agenda? If yes, should Europe take the lead in developing this agenda?

- AMR is a global problem needing a global response but requiring the development of solutions adapted to regional, national and local needs and practices
- Developing a global research agenda could promote a coordinated research programme addressing the totality of the problem but allowing participants to focus on their local priorities
- Europe has experience in developing regional and global research agendas, including in the context of Public/Private Partnerships, and could play a leading role
- Full engagement by research commissioners in both public and private sectors would be required for a global research agenda to be developed and delivered
- The agenda would need to follow a 'One Health' approach to ensure that human and veterinary research agendas are aligned and complementary



Question 2. Which specific data are needed to be able to assess individual control options to limit the spread of AMR?

- Each element of the control strategy needs collection of independent and objective data by which its outcome can be measured
- Sales and use of antimicrobials in human and veterinary domains provide a valuable indirect measure of the impact of control measures but success can only be measured directly by monitoring the emergence and spread of resistance (organisms and genes)
- Currently there is no systematic monitoring of resistance in veterinary target animal pathogens
- European Institutions can play a major role in standardisation of methodology to ensure comparability of data



Question 3. Could current surveillance strategies detect emerging risks?

- Surveillance systems for emergence and spread of AMR in human pathogens are not sufficiently developed in those areas of the world where the greatest risk of emergence exists, namely countries with a high prevalence of disease and inadequate control of access to antibiotics
- Surveillance systems for emergence and spread of AMR in target animal pathogens either do not exist or are inconsistently applied; surveillance systems for zoonotic and commensal organisms may not detect resistance to all relevant antibiotics
- Emerging risks will be detected but perhaps not at an early enough stage to eradicate risks at source, thereby making control more difficult and costly



Question 3. What is the impact of international trade (products and animals) and travel on the development/spread of resistance in humans and animals in the EU??

- Control needs to be seen in a global context to ensure that AMR control within EU is not undermined by AMR imported into EU through trade or travel
- There is no screening of travellers for resistant organisms and screening of animals or their produce could not cover the whole spectrum of AMR that might pose a threat
- Animals and people travel freely within the EU; currently the authorisations of veterinary antibiotics are not all harmonised and therefore the risks of development of resistance may vary between Member States
 - This is being addressed by the European Commission and the EMA and further measures to control risks from AMR arising as a result of the use of veterinary medicines will be included in the current revision of the legislation governing veterinary medicines