



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)

8 March 2022

Minutes

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved without changes. The minutes of previous meeting of 18 February 2022 have been approved and will be published on the Expert Panel website.

2. Nature of the meeting

The third drafting group meeting on ‘managing antimicrobial resistance across the health system’ took place on 8 March 2022 via MS Teams. The meeting, which was chaired by Professor Jan De Maeseneer, Chair of the drafting group, was a non-public meeting.

Members welcomed Professor An De Sutter as an external expert.

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 a preview of the main elements and how specific sections of the opinion were expanded.

Members discussed how best to present the data on the current situation on AMR and its impact. They pointed to the need for a more comprehensive definition, the comparability of data in EU countries and the overview on the burden of AMR. They reiterated the importance of taking the ECDC and EMA data into consideration.

Members discussed the framework for how the health system contributes to AMR reduction in four aspects *i)* policy and strategic planning, *ii)* medicines management and prescribing systems, *iii)* technological approaches, and *iv)* understanding context, culture, and behaviours.

It was stressed that a reduction in the burden of AMR will only be achieved if it becomes a priority at all levels, within countries, regions and globally.

Members underlined the importance of limiting appropriate prescription to those patients who would really benefit from antibiotics and need them. They highlighted the role of technologies that can assist clinicians to make more accurate and timely diagnosis including point-of-care testing (POCT).

Members further discussed the core determinants influencing AMR in the health system such as patient, physician, health centre, health R&D, public health and interactions between them. Several theoretical models were presented and discussed; it was agreed that a more specific model is needed to define determinants.

On the policy analysis, and national AMR action plans, it was agreed to focus on strategies to facilitate systemic implementation that would help Member States to implement their plans and monitor the effectiveness of specific AMR interventions.

ECDC referred to the Terms of Reference for, as well as reports from country visits (available from the [ECDC website](#)), which include a check list of structures and processes that must be implemented as part of national action plans on AMR.

COM will provide more information on a planned study on barriers to effective AMR actions that will be carried out to support the Proposal for a Council Recommendation on AMR.

4. Conclusion

Members agreed to provide their contribution for specific sub-sections of a draft opinion by 18 March to have a consolidated new draft ready prior to the next meeting of the drafting group. The Chair thanked everyone for active participation and valuable discussion.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting of the drafting group is scheduled for 1 April 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, 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)

Representative from ECDC