

# Antimicrobials and Resistance





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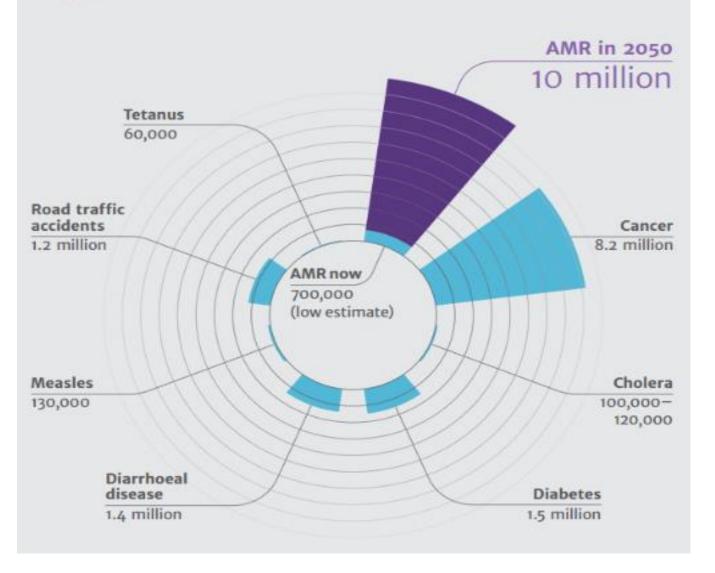
'Antibiotic apocalypse': doctors sound alarm over drug resistance

The terrifying prospect that even routine operations will be impossible to perform has been raised by experts alarmed by the rise of drug-resistant genes





#### Deaths attributable to AMR every year compared to other major causes of death



#### ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE IN NUMBERS

**25**k

The number of people who die each year across Europe from infections resistant to antibiotics

13%

decrease in antibiotic prescriptions dispensed in General Practice between 2012 and 2016 The period of time since a new class of antibiotics for human treatment was last introduced, despite the fact that growing numbers of bacterial and viral infections are resistant to antibiotics

10% of the sore throats and 20% of acute sinusitis benefit from antibiotic treatment but the prescription rates are much higher than this

10%

People in England take at least one course of antibiotics each year

10 million Estimated number of yearly deaths globally by 2050 if we do not act now

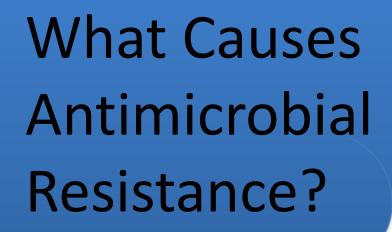
The **estimated lost productivity** to the global economy (\$100 trillion)

£66trillion

# **Background**

Bacterial resistance to antibiotics is on the rise.

 Overuse & inappropriate use of antibiotics and a lack of new classes of antibiotics since the late 1980s is causing this.



**Antibiotic** 



# CAUSES OF ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE



Antibiotic resistance happens when bacteria change and become resistant to the antibiotics used to treat the infections they cause.



Over-prescribing of antibiotics



Patients not finishing their treatment



Over-use of antibiotics in livestock and fish farming



Poor infection control in hospitals and clinics



Lack of hygiene and poor sanitation



Lack of new antibiotics being developed

www.who.int/drugresistance

**#**AntibioticResistance



# What happens if we run out of effective antibiotics?

- No more complex or 'dirty' surgery
- No more cytotoxic chemotherapy
- Deaths from immunodeficiencies
  - Asplenia
  - HIV/AIDS
  - Primary/Secondary immunodeficiencies
- Deaths from previously treatable infections





# The future

New antibiotics



- New strategies
  - Bacteriophage Viruses that kill bacteria
  - Vaccines Prevent infections
  - Rapid diagnostics Help guide quickly appropriate treatment
  - Quorum sensing inhibitors New initiative early stages





#### What can we do now?

- Good infection control
  - An infection that doesn't spread is one that doesn't require treatment



- Samples for sensitivities
- Better antibiotic prescribing
- Antimicrobial Stewardship



# Antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) is defined as:

"The right antibiotic, for the right indication (right diagnosis), the right patient, at the right time, with the right dose and route, causing the least harm to the patient and future patients."

These principles ensure that providers only prescribe antibiotics for non-self-limiting bacterial infections



#### Why it is relevant to you:

 Without effective antibiotics many routine treatments will become increasingly dangerous. Setting broken bones, basic operations, even chemotherapy and animal health all rely on access to antibiotics that work.



#### Call to action:

Choose one simple pledge about how you'll make better use of antibiotics and help save these vital medicines from becoming obsolete.

Click the link below to make your pledge:

 Antibiotic Guardian – Pledge to be an Antibiotic Guardian



#### IF NOT TACKLED, RISING AMR COULD HAVE A DEVASTATING IMPACT



By 2050, the death toll could be a staggering one person every three seconds if AMR is not tackled now.



#### Summary

We need to preserve our current antibiotics

Overuse and inappropriate use drives resistance

Course lengths – Complete your prescribed course

Excellent infection prevention and control!



#### References:

<u>Antibiotic Guardian – Pledge to be an Antibiotic Guardian</u>

Antibiotic awareness: posters and leaflets - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Antimicrobial resistance (who.int)

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)