

e-News

Four EU scientific committees adopt joint opinion on antimicrobial resistance

The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks (SCENIHR), the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) published today a joint scientific opinion on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) focused on infections transmitted to humans from animals and food.

This joint opinion calls for strengthening surveillance activities, for developing new antimicrobials and for encouraging new strategies to combat the spread of resistance and foster a prudent use of these products. It also notes that research is needed on other strategies to control infectious diseases in animals, such as vaccination programmes.

There is some evidence that bacterial resistance to antibiotics may emerge not only from the use of antibiotics but also from the use of biocides. As a result, the latest scientific advice recommends an approach build around the understanding of resistance mechanisms that considers simultaneously the genetic and biochemical aspects, antibiotics and biocides, and environmental, veterinary and medical aspects.

For more information please visit the following links:

http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_home.htm

<http://www.emea.europa.eu/>

<http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/Pages/home.aspx>

Link to Joint Opinion:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/committees/04_scenihr/docs/scenihr_o_026.pdf