

Proposal for Thematic Network on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Health Policy Platform

Brussels, 5 December 2016



SUMMARY

- ❖ (RE-)INTRODUCTION TO EPHA
- ❖ ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE CAMPAIGN
- ❖ OBJECTIVES OF PROPOSED THEMATIC NETWORK / JOINT STATEMENT ON AMR

[epha]

EUROPEAN



EUROPEAN
HEMATOLOGY
ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL



fighting heart disease
and stroke
european heart network



ASSOCIATIONS



REGIONAL

FEDERATIONS



NGOs / charities

+/- 90 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

WHO ARE WE ?



- › Bring together the P.H. community
- › Provide leadership and facilitate change
- › Build P.H. capacity to deliver equitable solutions to European P.H. challenges
- › **Improve health and reduce inequalities.**

- › A Europe with universal good health and well being, where **all have access to a sustainable and high quality health system**
- › A Europe whose policies and practices contribute to health, **both within and beyond its borders**



AMR Campaign:

'It's everybody's responsibility'



‘AMR is **Europe’s biggest public health threat**’
(former Health Commissioner John Dalli, 2012)



‘By 2050, the death toll could be a staggering **one person every three seconds** if AMR is not tackled now. AMR also has a very real economic cost, which will continue to grow if resistance is not tackled. The **cost in terms of lost global production between now and 2050 would be an enormous 100 trillion USD** if we do not take action. (O’Neill Review final report, 2016)

‘Commitment is important, but **commitment alone will not stop the spread of multiresistant bugs (...) it is time to act!**’

(E. Schippers, M. van Rijn, AMR Now, 2016)



- **WHO Global Action Plan on AMR**
- FAO Action Plan on AMR; Codex Alimentarius standards; OIE Animal Health Code
- **European Action Plan on AMR** (2011) incl. roadmap (2014), progress reports
- **Evaluation report (2016)**
- **Communication on a One Health Action Plan to support MS in the fight against AMR (24 Oct)**
- EU Regulation on transmissible animal diseases ('Animal Health Law' , March 2016)
- Proposed Regulations on veterinary medicinal products and on medicated feed
- ECDC Guidelines on prudent use in veterinary medicine (2015), human medicine (2016?)
- (Joint) surveillance reports by ECDC, EMA, EFSA; TATFAR
- Council Conclusions on AMR / antibiotics: 2008, 2009, 2012 (DK), 2016 (NL)
- Council Recommendation (2002) on prudent use of antimicrobial agents in human medicine
- Council Recommendation (2009) on patient safety, incl. prevention & control of HCAI
- EP reports by MEP Rosbach (ECR, DK), 'The microbial challenge' (2012), MEP Pedicini (IT), 'Safer healthcare in Europe' (2015), MEP Grossetête (EPP, FR) on 'Veterinary Medicinal Products' (2015)
- National Action Plans / Regional Action Plans / legislation



- ✓ Endorsed by members at 2015 Annual General Assembly
- ✓ EAAD statements & video re: 'Keeping AMR high on EU agenda'
- ✓ EPHA Working Group on AMR & Scientific Advisor
- ✓ Meetings with EU & national policymakers, partners
- ✓ Analysis of EU, WHO, national action plans & best practices
- ✓ Recommendations for Dutch Presidency Council Conclusions
- ✓ EPHA reports
 - ✓ Prudent use of antibiotics in human medicine & public consultation response
 - ✓ Briefing on Evaluation of f2011-2016 Action Plan
 - ✓ Legal briefing re: EU competences in AMR related areas
 - ✓ EPHA Position on follow-up Action Plan
- ✓ Monthly AMR news feed, website articles, social media
- ✓ Linked up with other EPHA campaigns
 - ✓ Universal Access to Medicines re: new business models, pricing, pooling of funds– **antimicrobials as common good**
 - ✓ Sustainable Food & Agriculture re: food production, animal welfare...
 - ✓ Trade re: TTIP impacts; new technology & innovation



- ✓ Campaign goals
 - Inform about AMR and its ramifications by **reframing it as a public health issue**
 - Consequences of post-antibiotic era – making it tangible
 - Create international dialogue re: ‘One Health’ approach
 - Keeping AMR on agenda throughout the year
 - Stimulate political will to *implement* recommendations & best practices
 - Policy coherence – international, European, national, regional
 - Develop concrete policy proposals, together with experts
 - Ultimately, kick into action policymakers, health professionals, patients/consumers, farmers and industry!

- ✓ Strong role for Europe as leading global region
 - Make full use of EU competences in relevant policy areas
 - Ensure existing MS best practices are taken up across Europe
 - Motivate ambitious targets & goals – **time is running out!**



✓ EPHA Annual Conference **'Resistance! Antibiotics, Politics and Public Health'** – 8 September 2016, Brussels

- Economic / social aspects of AMR
- Prevention in human health
- Animal welfare & agriculture
- Innovation model for antimicrobials
- Moving towards a One Health approach

✓ Side event with The Wellcome Trust re: **'Communicating AMR'**

- Widespread misconceptions about AMR & antibiotics
- Socio-culturally determined differences in attitudes & behaviours across Europe
- Terminology – drug-resistant infections vs. 'AMR'
- How to ensure everybody identifies with AMR to stimulate action?



Environmental Dimension of AMR

- ✓ Dec 2015 event '**Pharma Pollution: An ignored cause of AMR?**' at European Parliament, with HCWH Europe & Changing Markets



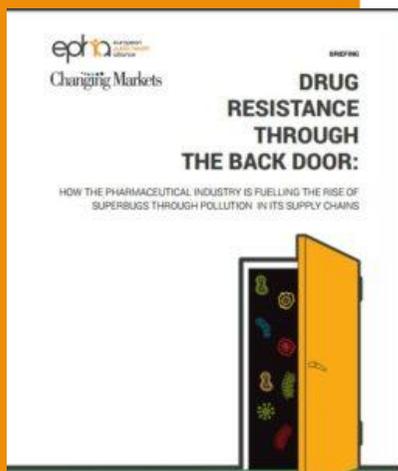
- Hosted by MEPs Häuser (Greens, DE) & Selimovic (ALDE, SWE)
- Dialogue with industry re: Good Manufacturing Practices
- Report on Environmental Dimension of AMR
- Journal articles re: infection control, environmental pollution

'(...) A complex and murky web of commercial relationships between Chinese suppliers, Indian middlemen, and trusted global brands.

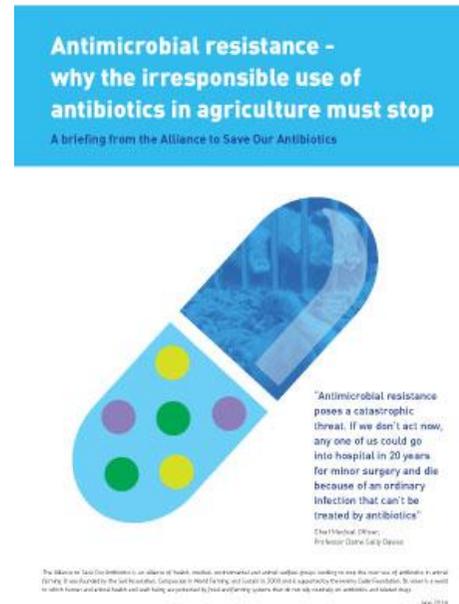
Information on where pharmaceutical companies source their antibiotics is classified as commercially sensitive, making it impossible to fill the supply chain gaps – *Bad Medicines Report, SumOfUs, 2015*

Since then:

Davos & UNGA declarations by leading pharmaceutical companies



‘However, all of this fails to fully grasp **the effect that losing antibiotics would have on human medicine**. Achievements (...) such as major surgery, organ transplantation, treatment of preterm babies, and cancer chemotherapy, which we today take for granted, would not be possible without access to effective treatment for bacterial infections.’



Alliance to Save Our Antibiotics Briefing, ‘Antimicrobial Resistance – why the irresponsible use of antibiotics in agriculture must stop’



THEMATIC NETWORK / STATEMENT ON AMR

A complex societal issue

- Multi-sectoral action & multidisciplinary research needed
- Prudent use in humans & veterinary medicine – changing consumption & prescribing behaviours, common misconceptions, illegal availability, etc.
- Excess use vs. access to medicines in global context
- Surveillance and monitoring – what data gaps need to be closed?
- Infection control & prevention, hygiene & patient safety
- Education/training & antimicrobial stewardship
- Alternatives to antibiotics: vaccination, diagnostics, maintaining good health
- Animal welfare / food production systems
- Environmental consequences (water supply, etc.)
- Innovation model re: new effective antibiotics, preserving existing ones
- Governance of European AMR structure: responsibilities & accountability (e.g., One Health Network)
- From AMR discourse to *implementation*

Proposal for Thematic Network

- Consensus building with diverse group of partners from the public health community
- Produce joint **Call to Action** underlining that a strong EU leadership role in tackling AMR – through a robust follow-up Action Plan in 2017 – is needed to support MS
- Demonstrate that AMR & prudent use of antimicrobials is a grave concern for NGOs, industry and Member States, express that the EU added value is extremely valuable
- Identify specific support needs of Member States
- Underline key points to be included in Action Plan from “One Health” perspective
- Ensure AMR remains high on the EU, national, regional and global agenda



OBJECTIVE OF THEMATIC NETWORK

