Health: science advice in short and long term challenges

Parallel Session 1.3
INGSA conference 29 September 2016

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Overview

• Give the view of the medical academies on the main health challenges requiring scientific advice.
• How can scientific advice best contribute to tackling them?

• UK Academy perspective; European network of Academies – FEAM
Overview

1. Why are medical academies important in this space?

2. What are our roles in short- and long-term health challenges?

3. AMS perspective on main health challenges

4. Priorities for generating and landing scientific advice
1. Why are the medical academies important in this space?

- **Elected Fellowships** - the best researchers and scholars, national/international resource of expertise

- Fellows serve as individuals – able to engage in a *national/international agenda*

- **Independent** (commercial, political, ideological) and *evidence-based*

- **Convening power** – cross disciplinary and cross sector, including patients and publics
1. Why are the medical academies important in this space?

- Trusted
- Broad
- Balanced
- Expert
- Influential
Federation of European Academies of Medicine

• Work at a national level is insufficient
• 18 National Academies; >5000 top biomedical and health scientists in Europe
• Secretariat in Palace des Academies, Brussels since 1993.
• Cooperation with five other European and global academy networks.
• ‘To provide independent scientific advice to the EU on human and animal medicine, biomedical research, education and health priorities’
2. What are roles of academies in short- and long-term health challenges?

• Convening expertise/perspectives, reviewing evidence, reaching consensus – challenging and time-consuming

• Consultative approach with transparent governance – great when time and space available.

• Best on longer-term health challenges - re-orientating research and healthcare priorities/ investment; anticipating regulatory, ethical, societal implications.
2. What are roles of academies in short- and long-term health challenges?

• Policy-makers can turn to individual trusted advisers when in crisis/response mode; advantage to less public exposure as policy developed.

• Don’t wait to be asked!

• We can be quick when threat to medical research (Data Protection Regulation; Clinical Trials Regulation. In UK – human tissue, embryo and stem cell research).
3. AMS perspective on main health challenges

- Securing and improving health of the public as a whole
- Realising opportunities in preventative medicine; understanding health beliefs and behaviours
- Getting precision medicine into clinical pathways
- New directions in mental health
- Genome editing
3. AMS perspective on main health challenges

- All health problems are global health problems
- UK Fleming Fund, Ross Fund, Global Challenges Research Fund
- Pandemic influenza preparedness
- AMR and emerging infections
- Multi-morbidity in research and healthcare
- Driving healthcare innovation with more value, less cost
- Obesity
3. AMS perspective on main health challenges

- Use of personal data in research and healthcare
- Shaping dialogues around preventative health
- Ensuring next generation of clinical researchers
- Fostering team science
- Improving research reproducibility and robustness
4. Priorities for generating and landing scientific advice

- Picking the right champion/chair
- Consultation; genuine deliberative dialogue between researchers, patients, publics, policy-makers.
- Cultivating relationships in advance
- Crowd-funding – buy in
- Meetings, meetings, meetings.
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DARN, YOU'RE RIGHT... THEY'VE ALL BEEN CONTAMINATED BY POLITICS.
4. Priorities for generating and landing scientific advice

- ‘Unionising’ biomedical and health research leadership
- Connecting with the diaspora
- Developing the next generation of policy-engaged researchers.