

# COMBATING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE: EXPERIENCES FROM THE FIELD

A reference book describing the need for and examples of successful interventions

To help national policy-makers dealing with health, the pharmaceutical industry, animal husbandry and civil society engagement, WHO will release, in 2011, a book entitled '**COMBATING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE: EXPERIENCES FROM THE FIELD**'. The book builds and expands on the six points highlighted in the World Health Day 2011 policy package to tackle the growing global problem of antimicrobial resistance. It provides in-depth analysis of the need for and examples of successful interventions in reducing antimicrobial resistance across WHO Member States. It is the result of wide international expert consultations organized by WHO, supported by literature reviews and experiences of groups involved in addressing AMR at the national and international level.

## The Causes

**SIX MAJOR FACTORS TOGETHER DRIVE AMR: INTERVENTIONS NEED TO ADDRESS ALL THESE FACTORS**

Lack of comprehensive national actions with civil society engagement to address AMR

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Lack of laboratory capacity and surveillance lead to inadequate information for choosing treatment for individual patient and for making policy decisions

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Overuse of antibiotics for diseases that do not require them and underuse due to insufficient doses, duration or use of antibiotics of substandard potency

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Unnecessary use of antibiotics in food-producing animals, especially for supposed benefits in disease prevention and growth promotion

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Insufficient measures to prevent the spread of resistant bacteria in hospitals and the community

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Inadequate momentum in research and development in the essential technologies to combat AMR, e.g. drug, diagnostics and vaccine

## The Problem

**BACTERIA DEVELOP RESISTANCE AND RESISTANT BACTERIA THRIVE**

↓  
**SPREAD**

**PATIENTS AT RISK OF PROLONGED DISEASE, MORE COMPLICATIONS OR NO CURE AT ALL DUE TO DELAY OR ABSENCE OF CORRECT TREATMENT**

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**DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS TO PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

## Possible Solutions

**COMBATING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE: EXPERIENCES FROM THE FIELD**

*Addressing the six points identified for action in the World Health Day 2011 policy package*

The evidence for action

Surveillance of antimicrobial resistance and use

Rational drug use and regulations

Animal husbandry regulations

Infection prevention and control in health-care facilities

Enabling innovations in technology

Intersectoral and multi-disciplinary nationally coordinated actions involving civil society