Antibiotic Action
European & International Collaborating Partners

Academy of Medical Sciences

UK

We see antimicrobial resistance (AMR) develop in bacteria, fungi, viruses and parasites. Existing antibiotic, antifungal, antiviral and antiparasitic drugs are made ineffective by AMR with use over time. Although AMR occurs naturally in microbes and cannot be eliminated, practices for treating human infections and misuse of antimicrobials in agriculture both accelerate the development of AMR, and these can be improved to preserve our existing antimicrobial treatments for longer. Without research into surveillance and diagnosis techniques, new treatments, and international shifts in practices for using existing treatments, the world risks facing a crisis in multi-drug resistant microbial infections.

Contact:
The Academy of Medical Sciences
41 Portland Place
London W1B 1QH
T: 020 3176 2150
E: info@acmedsci.ac.uk

Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics

USA

The Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics (APUA) has been the leading global non-governmental organization fighting to preserve the effectiveness of antimicrobial drugs since 1981. With affiliated chapters in over 66 developed and developing countries, we conduct research, education and advocacy programs to control antimicrobial resistance and ensure access to effective antibiotics for current and future generations.

Contact:
Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics
200 Harrison Avenue
Posner 3 (Business)
Boston, MA 0211
USA
T: +1 (617) 636 0966
E: apua@tufts.edu

American Society for Microbiology

USA

The American Society for Microbiology (ASM) was one of the first societies to support the Antibiotic Action initiative of the British Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (BSAC). This initiative is raising awareness of the need for new antibiotics. We are working with the BSAC in encouraging policy makers to support antibacterial drug discovery, research and development.

Contact:
American Society for Microbiology
1752 N Street NW
Washington DC 20036-2904
T: 202 737 3600
E: service@asmusa.org

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)

UK

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a growing problem in the UK and globally. Led by the Department of Health and Defra, the UK government has launched a UK five year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy 2013 to 2018, to which BBSRC has contributed. Developing a range of strategies to reduce reliance on antimicrobials will be a key challenge for the future. From our perspective, this will require a multidisciplinary approach that crosses our strategic priorities in 'Agriculture and food security', 'Industrial biotechnology and bioenergy', 'Bioscience for health' and 'Exploiting new ways of working'.

Contact:
Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBRC)
Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon, Wiltshire
SN2 1UH

British Infection Association (BIA)

UK

The British Infection Association strongly supports Antibiotic Action, the global call for action to develop ne antibiotics. Current practice and future advances in medicine and surgery are dependent on the availability of effective antimicrobial agents. This affects not only the management of infectious disease, but also cancer treatments, organ transplantation and a wide range of other treatments and procedures. There is an urgent need for governments, industry, healthcare professionals and charities to promote the responsible use of existing antibiotics worldwide, and to collaborate to support research into, and the development of new antimicrobial agents.

Contact:
Hartley Taylor Ltd
Caledonian House
Tatton Street
Knutsford, Cheshire
WA16 6AG
T: 01565 632982
E: BIA@hartleytaylor.co.uk

Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics and Policy (CDDEP)

USA & India

Scientists have been aware of antibiotic resistance since shortly after the discovery of penicillin, western medicine's first antibiotic. To a certain extent resistance is inevitable—as we use an antibiotic over time, resistance to the drug gradually evolves, making infections more difficult to treat and necessitating new and more powerful drugs. However, the development of resistance is also impacted by our actions—for example by how often we prescribe and use antibiotics, and how well we control and prevent infections acquired in the hospital. In order to design sensible solutions that prolong the useful life of antibiotics, policymakers need to be able to provide factual evidence, identify trends and measure the scope of the resistance problem.

Contact:
The Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy
1616 P Street NW Suite 600
Washington DC 20036
USA
T: 202 328 5152
E: For general inquiries you can leave a message here

Center for Global Development

India

Chennai Declaration

The Chennai meeting in August 2012 was the first-ever meeting of medical societies in India on issue of tackling resistance, developing a plan to formulate a road-map to tackle the global challenge of antimicrobial resistance from the Indian perspective. The meeting had representatives from most medical societies in India, eminent policy makers from both central and state governments, representatives of World Health Organization, National Accreditation Board of Hospitals, Medical Council of India, Drug Controller General of India, and Indian Council of Medical Research, along with well-known dignitaries in the Indian medical field.
The Chennai Declaration named after the city where the meeting took place, is the consensus that evolved out of the meeting and is co-authored by representatives of various medical societies. The document is based on realistic goals and objectives, with a deep understanding of the background Indian scenario.

Contact:
Dr Abdul Ghafur
Coordinator, Chennai Declaration
No 84 Arcot Road
Meher Arcade Complex, lst Floor
Opp. CMC Hospital
Vellore 63004
India
E: drghafur@hotmail.com
E: contact@chennaideclaration.org

Cystic Fibrosis Trust

UK

Resistance to existing antimicrobial agents within the major CF pathogens is an increasing problem. However, rationalisation by the pharmaceutical industry has reduced the prospects of any novel antimicrobial agents being developed in the immediate future. Thus, innovative and collaborative research is urgently required to develop effective agents against multiresistant CF pathogens. The consortium investigated several strategies, including the characterization of the antimicrobial activity of biocides and antimicrobial peptides, and the investigation of antimicrobial targets that might be exploited by novel antimicrobial agents.

Contacts:
Cystic Fibrosis Trust
11 London Road
Bromley
Kent
BR1 1BY
T: 020 8464 7211
E: enquiries@cysticfibrosis.org.uk

Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL) – Innovation in Drug Development Process

UK

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) recently launched an initiative looking for innovative ways to speed up the development of antimicrobials – or antibiotics – which could be used to support the UK's Armed Forces. Recognising that such development by the pharmaceutical industry can be time consuming, and involves a high risk of failure, the MOD's Centre for Defence Enterprise (CDE), part of the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory is seeking fresh ideas from industry and academia.

Contact:
Centre for Defence Enterprise
Electron Building
Harwell
Oxford
OX11 0QR
T: 01235 438 445
E: cde@dstl.gov.uk

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) Antimicrobial Resistance Coordination (DARC) Group

UK

The issue of antimicrobial resistance has received increasing attention recently from the scientific and political communities. Resistance to antimicrobial products is known to occur in both human and veterinary medicines. To address this the Government has established several working groups to look at different aspects of this issue.

Contact:
Veterinary Medicines Directorate
Woodham Lane
New Haw
Surrey
KT15 3LS
T: 01932 336911
E: postmaster@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)

UK

EPSRC's Healthcare Technologies Theme has created a number of Grand Challenges one of which is 'Infection prevention and control'. The early detection, identification and control of infectious agents would improve the health of the global population. This could lead to fewer infections in clinical and non-clinical environments, prevention of the spread of infection and the development of more effective targeted antimicrobial therapies. This challenge has particular relevant to the global antimicrobial resistance challenge and future research could lead to breakthroughs in the development of new antimicrobial agents and interventions for specific resistant strains on a named microbe/patient basis.

Contact:
EPSRC
Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
SN2 1ET
T: +44 (0) 1792 444000

European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID)

Switzerland

All scientifically based initiatives to combat the development of antimicrobial resistance and promote the appropriate use of antimicrobials are unreservedly encouraged by ESCMID and we provide a scientific platform to selected initiatives such as Antibiotic Action.

Contact:
ESCMID Executive Office
PO Box 214
4010 Basel
Switzerland
P: +41 61 5080 153
F: +41 61 5080 151
E: info@escmid.org

European Commission 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7)

Belgium

The European Commission's 2011 action plan against the rising threats from antimicrobial resistance contains 12 actions for implementation with EU member countries and identifies areas where measures are most necessary. The commission funds several antimicrobial resistance projects through its Health Programme and monitors AMR risks with the support of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and the European Food Safety Authority.

Contact:
Directorate-General Health & Consumers
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium
T: 00 800 67891011

French Infectious Disease Society (SPILF)

France

The French Infectious Disease Society has endorsed antibiotic action describing the need to develop new antibiotics for future use.

Contact:
Professor Christian Rabaud
President
French Infectious Diseases Society (SPILF)
CHU de Nancy, Hospitals Brabois
54511 Vandoeuvre les Nancy Cedex
T: 03 83 15 40 97
E: c.rabaud@chu-nancy.fr

Global Antibiotic Resistance Partnership (GARP)
USA & New Delhi
This partnership develops actionable policy proposals on antibiotic resistance for low- and middle-income countries. Proposals identify weaknesses in how antibiotics are developed, regulated, and managed, and how well countries track antibiotic use and resistance. Phase 1 of GARP encompassed work in four countries: India, Kenya, South Africa, and Vietnam. The expertise and capacity developed in these initial four countries is the core of a wider partnership involving other low- and middle-income countries to create greater awareness among national policymakers about the need for policies to control antibiotic resistance as part of a worldwide effort.

GARP is a project of the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP), Washington, United States & New Delhi, India.

Contact:
GARP Secretariat
The Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy
1616 p Street NW, Suite 600
Washington DC 20036
USA

NO WEBSITE IDENTIFIED

Greek Society of Clinical Microbiology & Laboratory Diagnosis
Dr Chryssa Koutsia-Carouzou, President of SCMLD

Healthcare Infection Society (HIS)
UK
The Healthcare Infection Society is highly supportive of Antibiotic Action, the global call for action to develop new antibiotics. The current worldwide epidemic of multi-resistance micro-organisms has been driven by uncontrolled use of antimicrobial agents in human and veterinary medicine and creates an enormous challenge for the Infection Prevention community. HIS urges policy makers and the pharmaceutical industry to work with healthcare professionals and charities to promote the responsible use of antimicrobial agents. Further research into the development of new antimicrobial agents is a matter of the highest priority.

Contact:
Healthcare Infection Society
162 Kings Cross Road
London
WC1X 9DH
T: +44 (0) 7713 0273
E: admin@his.org.uk

Hellenic Society of Chemotherapy

Greece

Inadequate education and information for the people who over-consume antibiotics, particularly parents, and also physicians and pharmacists, including the politicians at the Ministry of Health, who appear to be rather indifferent. We don't seem to have realized that antibiotics are precious medicines that, if used properly, will help people recover from 'microbes', in strong contrast with how other medicines work, such as hypertension or cholesterol pills, which do not cure and thus, when a patient stops receiving the specific drug, the hypertension or cholesterol increases again. At the same time, antibiotics do not cease to be medicines, i.e. poisonous drugs according to Greek nomenclature, and therefore they have side-effects and toxicity, and their unnecessary use for viral infections results in the development of resistance in the millions of microbes that constitute our natural flora (microbes that can also be influenced by the antibiotics we take). Therefore, when we really need to take an antibiotic in order to confront bacterial infections, we can no longer find an effective one. Furthermore, there is a misconception amongst doctors that 'if I do not prescribe an antibiotic my patient will change physicians, whereas if I do prescribe antibiotics, I might prevent the microbial complications that the viral infections can cause': a medically incorrect practice.s

Contact:
Professor Helen Giamarellou
President, Helenic Society of Chemotherapy
Hellenic Center for Disease Control & Prevention
76 Egnatias Stra
546-24, 6th Floor
Thessaloniki
Greece
T: +30 2310 229 139
E: keelpno.thess@keelpno.gr

Hungarian Society of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology (HSIDCM)

The Hungarian Society of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Mirobiology (HSIDCM) support Antibiotic Action.

Contact:
Dr Ferenc Schneider
President
H-1097 Budapest
Gyáli út 5-7
Hungary
T: +36 1 455 8100

Infection Prevention Society (IPS)UK
UK
The vision of the Infection Prevention Society is that no person is harmed by a preventable infection. Good clinical practice will prevent many infections, but when infection does occur it is essential that effective treatment is available. The continued emergence of resistant micro-organisms makes it essential that work continues to develop new antibiotics and the IPS supports the antibiotic action campaign.

Contact:
Tracey Cooper
President
Infection Prevention Society
Blackburn House
Redhouse Road
Seafield
EH47 7AQ
T: +44 (0)1506 811 077
E: ips@fitwise.co.uk

The Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA)
USA
The Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) represents physicians, scientists and other health care professionals who specialize in infectious diseases**.** IDSA's purpose is to improve the health of individuals, communities, and society by promoting excellence in patient care, education, research, public health, and prevention relating to infectious diseases. Antimicrobial resistance refers to microbes' ability to change and become less susceptible to drugs. The development of antimicrobial drugs (antibacterials [antibiotics], antivirals, antifungals and antiparasitics) to treat otherwise life-threatening infections has been one of the most notable medical achievements in human history. The growing problem of resistance has undermined antimicrobials' effectiveness resulting in the loss of countless lives and placing public health and national security at serious risk. IDSA is working on several policy fronts to counter these "bad bugs" and to save lives.

Contact:
1300 Wilson Blvd
Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22209
Phone: (703) 299-0200
Fax: (703) 299-0204

Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI)
Belgium
The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) is Europe's largest public-private partnership aiming to improve the drug development process by supporting a more efficient discovery and development of better and safer medicines for patients.

Contact:
Professor Michel Goldman
Executive Director
Innovative Medicines Initiative
Faculty of Medicine
Université Libre de Bruxelles
Avenuye Franklin Roosevelt 50
1050 Bruxelles
T: +32 (0)2 650 2111
E: Michel.goldman@ulb.ac.be

Inter-regional Association for Clinical Microbiology & Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (IACMAC)

Russia

IACMAC is a non-profit organization devoted to the promotion of research and education in the fields of clinical microbiology and antimicrobial chemotherapy. IACMAC has established programs of regional and interregional antibiotic resistance monitoring (RosNet) and now is developing plans for expansion of these programs onto national level.

Contact:
IACMAC
POBox 60
Smolensk
214019
Russia
T: +7 4812 61 13 01
E: iacmac@microbiology.ru

Lee Spark NF Foundation

UK

The mission of The Lee Spark Necrotising Fasciitis (NF) Foundation is to help those whose lives have been affected by necrotising fasciitis and other severe streptococcal infections and medical staff who are involved with investigating, diagnosing and treating NF. Our aims are to support the families and of those affected, educate the medical profession and the general public, promote recognition of the early signs and symptoms of necrotising fasciitis and severe streptococcal infection, highlight the causes, effects, treatment and management of this horrific disease and promote research into prevention and treatment.

No contact address
For general enquiries please use online form
T: 01254 878701
E: info@nfsuk.org.uk

Medical Research Council (MRC)

UK

The heart of our mission is to improve human health through world-class medical research. To achieve this, we support research across the biomedical spectrum, from fundamental lab-based science to clinical trials, and in all major disease areas. We work closely with the UK Health Departments to deliver our mission, and give a high priority to research that is likely to make a real difference to clinical practice and the health of the population.

Contact:
Head Offices in Swindon and London
Switchboard for both locations: 01793 416200
E: corporate@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk

NO WEBSITE IDENTIFIED

National Concern for Healthcare Infections (NCHI)

UK

Working in collaboration with NHS and other healthcare organisations to ensure patient safety remains a priority. We provide advocacy, advice and information. NCHI supports the aims and ambitions of Antibiotic Action and calls on all concerned to take action to ensure new and effective antibiotics are available to treat infections – both now and in the future. In addition raising awareness of health care infections, NCHI works hard to support and offer advice of people who contract healthcare infections, and for whom the availability of effective antibiotic treatments are essential. Graham Tanner, Chair of NCHI says "We have direct experience of the devastating effect of multi-drug resistant infections on the lives of patients and their families – and this is in the presence of currently available treatments. The rise in antibiotic resistance is seriously threatening our ability to effectively treat patients – the consequences of no new antibiotic agents is unthinkable.

Contact:
Graham Tanner
22 King Georges Road
Bristol
BS13 8LP
T: 0117 914 0628

National Infusion and Vascular Access Society (NIVAS)

UK

National Infusion and Vascular Access Society, founded in 2009, is the first independent multi-professional society to be founded in the UK in this century. It is the new voice for all those involved in vascular access and infusion therapies. The society was founded in July 2009 in order to promote excellence in this specialised field of patient care. We believe that we can advance practice through communication, collaboration and education.

Contact:
NIVAS Secretariat
Succinct Medical Communications
Regatta House
67-71 High Street
Marlow
Buckinghamshire
SL7 1AB
T: 01628 897 926
W: NIVAS@succinctcomms.com

National Institute for Care Excellence (NICE)

UK

Providing guidance supports healthcare professionals and others to make sure that the care they provide is of the best possible quality and offers the best value for money. We provide independent, authoritative and evidence-based guidance on the most effective ways to prevent, diagnose and treat disease and ill health, reducing inequalities and variation. Our guidance is for the NHS, local authorities, charities, and anyone with a responsibility for commissioning or providing healthcare, public health or social care services. We also support these groups in putting our guidance into practice.

Contact:
National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
10 Spring Gardens
London
SW1A 2BU
T: 0845 003 7780
E: nice:@nice.org.uk

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

UK

The mission of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is to maintain a health research system in which the NHS supports outstanding individuals, working in world class facilities, conducting leading edge research focused on the needs of patients and the public. The NIHR is a large, multi-faceted and nationally distributed organisation, funded through the Department of Health to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research. Professor Dame Sally Davies, as the head of DH R&D, is responsible for NIHR.

Contact:
National Institute for Health Research
Room 132
Richmond House
79 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2NS
E: enquiries@nihr.ac.uk

NO WEBSITE IDENTIFIED

Norwegian Society for Medical Microbiology (NSMM)

Norway

The Norwegian Society for Medical Microbiology is pleased to support Antibiotic Action and promote the campaign to the membership of NSMM.

Contact:
Dr Carola Grub
Department of Medical Microbiology
Innlandet Hospital Trust
Lillehammer
NO 2609
Norway
T: +47 915 06200
General enquiries: postmottak@sykehuset-innlandet.no

Pew Charitable Trusts

USA

The Pew Charitable Trusts is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public and stimulate civic life.

Contact:
One Commerce Square
2005 Market Street, Suite 2800
Philadelphia PA19103-7077
USA
T: +1 215 575 9050
E: info@pewtrusts.org

ReAct – Action on Antibiotics

Sweden

ReAct is an independent global network for concerted action on antibiotic resistance. ReAct aims for profound change in awareness and action to manage the interacting social, political, ecological and technical forces that drive the rising rate of resistant human and animal infection and the rapid spread of resistance within and between communities and countries.

Contact:
Uppsala University
Box 256
751 05 Uppsala
Sweden
T: +46 (0)18 471 66 07
E: react@medsci.uu.se

Renal Association (The)

UK

To promote prevention and early identification of kidney disease and high quality treatment for all patients at risk from or identified with kidney failure on an equal or uniform basis through the UK. The Renal Association is pleased to support the antibiotic Action Campaign. We note the vulnerability of all kidney patients to infections, the lowered immune systems of those with transplants, and support the push towards more education and research on drugs to beat infections. Shockingly, healthcare associated infections are the second leading cause of death for the dialysis population. In addition they probably cost at least 100 million pounds per annum for 25,000 patients. The need for and the reliance on effective treatments is clear.

Contact:
The Renal Association
Durford Mill
Petersfield
Hampshire
GU31 5AZ
T: 0870 458 4155

Romanian Society of Medical Mycology and Mycotoxicology

Romania

Recent decades have brought extensive changes in the pathology of infectious opportunistic organisms – fungi in particular are involved in increasingly frequent infections increasing severity. We support the work of Antibiotic Action.

Contact
Dr Mihai Mares
President
Romanian Society of Medical Mycology and Mycotoxicology
OP 6, CP.
1356 IASI
Romania
T: 0232 407316
E: mihaimares@fungi.ro

Royal Society (The)
UK
The Royal Society is a self-governing Fellowship of many of the world's most distinguished scientists drawn from all areas of science, engineering, and medicine. The Society's fundamental purpose, reflected in its founding Charters of the 1660s, is to recognise, promote, and support excellence in science and to encourage the development and use of science for the benefit of humanity.

Contact:
The Royal Society
6 – 9 Carlton House Terrace
London
SW1 5AG
T: 020 7451 2500

Society for Applied Microbiology (SfAM)
UK
The Society for Applied Microbiology (S*f*AM) is the voice of applied microbiology and oldest microbiology society in the UK. Its object is to advance for the benefit of the public the science of microbiology in its application to the environment, human and animal health, agriculture and industry.

Contact:
Society for Applied Microbiology
Bedford Heights
Brickhill Drive
Bedford
MK41 7PH
T: 01234 326661
For general enquiries please use online form

Society for General Microbiology
UK
The Society for General Microbiology creates awareness and highlights the important role of microbiology to parliamentarians, opinion-formers and policy-makers. We strive to meet this aim through a variety of activities designed to bring microbiologists, government officials and members of the civil service together. The Society aims to engage with key global issues that are of interest to our members.

Contact:
Society for General Microbiology
Charles Darwin House
12 Roger Street
London WC1N 2JU
T: 020 6785 2400
E: info@sgm.ac.uk

Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA)
USA

SHEA's mission is to prevent and control healthcare-associated infections and advance the field of healthcare epidemiology. SHEA has helped define best practices in healthcare epidemiology worldwide since its founding in 1980. SHEA is dedicated to advancing the science and practice of healthcare epidemiology and preventing and controlling morbidity, mortality, and the cost of care linked to healthcare-associated infections. The society partners with epidemiologists, infectious disease practitioners, basic scientists, public health specialists, consumers, policymakers, and others, to achieve better healthcare outcomes. SHEA's expertise is sought by healthcare regulatory and accrediting agencies and its scientific voice guides decision-making bodies in developing rational, effective, and cost-conscious public policies.

Contact:
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
1300 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 300
Arlington, VA22209, USA
T: +1 703684 1006
E: info@shea-online.org

Société Française de Microbiologie (SFM)
France

The French Society of Microbiology (SFM) is non-profit organisation founded in 1937 in the pure pasteurian tradition. It has been recognised of public profit by the French authorities in 1993. The society has vocation to gather microbiologists from France and francophone countries working in the various fields of microbiology either medical, industrial, environmental, related to physiology, genetics, taxonomia, hygiene, antimicrobial agents, ... regarding bacteria, viruses, fungii and parasites. The Society organises, supervises or associates to conferences and meetings, either alone or in collaboration with other scientific societies. It regularly published an Information Bulletin with scientific articles and news regarding its disciplines. Its scientific website is available for its members as well as the public.

Contact:
French Society for Microbiology
191 rue Vaugirard
75015 Paris
France
T: +33 (0) 1 45 66 77 46
E: secretariat@sfm-microbiologie.org

Surviving Sepsis Campaign
UK

The Surviving Sepsis Campaign is a joint collaboration of the Society of Critical Care Medicine and the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine committed to reducing mortality from severe sepsis and septic shock worldwide. Initiated in 2002 at the ESICM's annual meeting with the Barcelona Declaration, the Campaign progressed in phases that have expanded the scope and reach of the Campaign via publication of 3 editions of evidence-based guidelines, implementation of a performance improvement program, and analysis and publication of data from more than 30,000 patient charts collected around the world. Now recommitted to increasing the number of hospitals contributing data to 10,000 worldwide; to applying the guidelines to 100% of patients in whom the diagnosis is suspected; and to developing a strategy to improve the care of septic patients in under-resourced areas, the Campaign invites you to show your personal commitment to make a difference by downloading the Surviving Sepsis Declaration and sharing it with the team at your hospital. A description of current and future activities of the Campaign appeared in the April/May 2013 issue of *Critical Connections*, SCCM's bi-monthly tabloid news publication. The potential to save lives is enormous. Assuming that the reduction in mortality seen to date can be sustained and 10,000 hospitals comply with the Campaign

recommendations, we could save 400,000 lives *if we treat only half* of the eligible patients with the Surviving Sepsis Campaign Bundles.

Contact:
Surviving Sepsis Campaign
E: ssc@sccm.org

Technology Strategy Board (TSB)

UK

The world faces major challenges – from climate change, to resource use, to changing age demographics – which are creating global market opportunities for entirely new solutions. The countries most likely to benefit from these opportunities will be those which can innovate most rapidly. Innovation contributes to higher productivity and economic growth, and is core to our competitiveness. But many factors hamper innovation. Companies can struggle to find finance for early-stage development, the returns can be hard to predict, and the innovation 'landscape' can be complex and confusing. The Technology Strategy Board tackles these barriers and supports business-led innovation. We work across business, academia and government - supporting innovative projects, reducing risk, creating partnerships, and promoting collaboration, knowledge exchange and open innovation.

Contact:
The Technology Strategy Board
North Star House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
SN2 1UE
T: 01793 442700
E: support@innovateuk.org

UK Clinical Research Collaboration (UKCRC)

UK

The UK Clinical Research Collaboration (UKCRC) Partners' goal is to establish the UK as a world leader in clinical research. The UKCRC provides a forum that enables all Partners to work together to transform the clinical research environment in the UK. The forum promotes a strategic approach to the identification of opportunities and obstacles to clinical research and their resolution. In so doing the UKCRC aims to benefit the public and patients by improving national health and increasing national wealth.

Contact:
UK Clinical Research Collaboration (UKCRC)
c/o Medical Research Council
One Kemble Street
London
WC2B 4TS
T: +44 (0) 20 7395 2271
E: info@ukcrc.org

University of Birmingham
UK

The University of Birmingham recognises the significance of the Antibiotic Action initiative. Identifying opportunities through which researchers, clinicians, regulators and industry can work together to discover and bring new antibiotics to patients is vital, and as an institution we are committed to achieving this through our on-going support for antimicrobial research.

Contact:
Professor David Eastwood
Vice Chancellor
University of Birmingham
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 2TT
T: +44 (0) 121 414 3344

Wellcome Trust
UK

Our vision is to achieve extraordinary improvements in human and animal health. In pursuit of this, we support the brightest minds in biomedical research and the medical humanities. Our funding focuses on supporting outstanding researchers, accelerating the application of research and exploring medicine in historical and cultural contexts. We believe that breakthroughs emerge when the most talented researchers are given the resources and freedom they need to pursue their goals. We are committed to maximising the application of research to improve health by focusing on new product development and the uptake of patient-oriented research advances into clinical practice. We strive to embed biomedical science in the historical and cultural landscape, so that it is valued and there is mutual trust between researchers and the wider public.

Contact:
Wellcome Trust
Gibbs Building
215 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE
T: +44 (0)20 7611 8888
E: contact@wellcome.ac.uk

Welsh Microbiology Association (WMA)
UK

The Welsh Microbiological Association (WMA) was formed in 1977. A special meeting was held in St David's Hotel, Cardiff in 2007 to celebrate the WMA's 30th Anniversary. The aim of the Welsh Microbiological Association is to advance the study of microbiology in Wales by facilitating education and communication. WMA membership is open to any person who is, or has been, engaged in service work, research or teaching, in connection with microbiology or with any allied science or medical speciality.

Current WMA members include medical microbiologists, infectious diseases physicians, university lecturers, research scientists, clinical scientists, biomedical scientists, PhD students, public health physicians and clinical epidemiologists.

The WMA maintains a close link with its counterparts in Scotland (The Scottish Microbiology Association) and Ireland (The Irish Society of Clinical Microbiologists). A tripartite scientific meeting, also known as the PanCeltic Meeting, of the three societies takes place every two years.

Furthermore, the WMA is a founding member of the Federation of Infection Societies (FIS), a member society of the International Society of Chemotherapy (ISC) and is an affiliated society with the European Society for Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases (ESCMID).

Contact:
Dr Philip Mannion
President
E: philip.mannion@wales.nhs.uk

World Alliance Against Antibiotic Resistance (WAAAR)

France

We are in danger of losing the antibiotic effectiveness. An alarming increase in bacterial resistance, combined with an almost complete absence of new drugs, represent one of the most important public health issues of our time. Antibiotics are unique medications whose targets (bacteria) are living organisms, evolving, adapting and acquiring mechanisms that confer resistance to those drugs. It is our absolute duty to keep the antibiotic active as treatment for human diseases. WAAAR is a group of more than 600 individuals from 50 different countries representing all the key stakeholders (MDs, veterinarians, pharmacists, evolutionary biologists, ecologists, environmentalists…) including patients' advocacy groups. The Alliance receives support from more than100 learned societies or professional groups throughout the world. It is a non-profit organization open to professionals and users worldwide. WAAAR receives no funding from industry. The primary objective of WAAAR is to raise awareness among all stakeholders of the urgency and magnitude of the threat. The Alliance is dedicated to actively lobbying for antibiotics preservation to raise awareness among antibiotic prescribers, policy-makers, patient safety groups, the pharmaceutical industry, international health organizations, politicians and the entire population.

Contact:
Jean Carlet
President of the ACdeBMR
9 rue de la terrassee
94000 Créteil
France
E: jeancarlet@gmail.com

World Alliance for Patient Safety
"First – do no harm"
Worldwide

The World Health Organization (WHO) and its partners announced a series of key actions to cut the number of illnesses, injuries and deaths suffered by patients during health care, with the launch of the World Alliance for Patient Safety. Ministers of health and senior officials, academics, patients' groups and WHO representatives came together from all corners of the globe to advance the patient safety goal of "First do no harm" and reduce the adverse health and social consequences of unsafe health care.

Contact:
World Health Organization
Avenue Appia 20
1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland
T: + 41 22 791 21 11

World Health Organisation (WHO)
Worldwide

WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.

In the 21st century, health is a shared responsibility, involving equitable access to essential care and collective defence against transnational threats. WHO is reforming to be better equipped to address the increasingly complex challenges of the health of populations in the 21st century. From persisting problems to new and emerging public health threats, WHO needs to be flexible enough to respond to this evolving environment.

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