



# Antimicrobial Resistance

For Healthcare Professionals





Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) has a broad impact on human health as it contributes to increase length of stay, treatment failures, and significant human suffering and deaths, as well as leading to increased healthcare costs.



### What is Antimicrobial Resistance?

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is the ability of microorganism such as (bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites) to modify over time and have reduce response to antimicrobial treatment making infections resistant; difficult to treat and increasing the risk of disease spread, severe illness and might lead to death. As a result of drug resistance, antibiotics and other antimicrobial medicines become ineffective and infections become increasingly impossible to treat.

### Why is AMR increasing?



01

Misuse and overuse of antimicrobials in humans, animals and plants are the main driven factors in the development of drug-resistant infections.

02

Some viral illness can share the same symptoms with other bacterial infections which can be managed by supportive treatment rather than antibiotics.

03

Treatment noncompliance by patients can lead to worsening of antimicrobial resistance.

04

In some countries, lack of clean water and sanitation and noncompliance to infection prevention measures.



## How can I help in reducing the prevalence of AMR?

Healthcare professionals are expected to follow local and international guidelines of infection control and obtain experts' recommendations to treat patients with appropriate antibiotics when required.

Key points:

● Use of the shortest effective duration of antibiotic therapy is a key antibiotic stewardship strategy.

● Always remember to prescribe the right antibiotic, at the right dose, for the right duration, and at the right time. If you need help, you can always ask for expert opinions including: infectious diseases consultant, and clinical pharmacist.

● Optimizing the use of diagnostic tests is critical for improving treatment of conditions like sepsis and stopping the spread of infections.

● Reassess antibiotic therapy to stop or de-escalate treatment based on the patient's clinical condition and diagnostic test results as appropriate.

● Educate your patients and their families to recognize the signs and symptoms of worsening infection and sepsis, if the antibiotics needed to be started as soon as possible, and to know when to seek medical care.

● Keep in mind patients with asymptomatic bacteriuria should not be treated with antibiotics in most cases.

● Always orient yourself and your team about Department of Health's (DoH) circulars and policies (e.g Monitoring and Reporting Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) etc).

# Spread Awareness Stop Resistance



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