Antimicrobial resistance – Act Now:

Protect our present, secure our future

EMA

ICMRA

International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a complex and growing global public health threat.

About **5 million deaths** are already associated with drug-resistant infections every year.

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Without urgent and coordinated action, **annual deaths could exceed**

8.2

million by 2050.

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In addition to death and disability, AMR has **significant economic costs**.

AMR will cost the world **US$ 412 billion** annually in direct healthcare costs by 2035.

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What is AMR?

AMR occurs when **bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites no longer respond to antibiotics and other antimicrobial agents**, making common infections much harder or even impossible to treat.

Misuse and overuse of antimicrobials in humans, animals and plants are the main drivers of AMR and accelerate its spread.

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Addressing AMR is a **collective responsibility** across sectors and stakeholders.

It is no longer an invisible danger but a present threat, **one of the most pressing health challenges of our time.**

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Why is global action needed?

AMR threatens our **health, economies, food safety and global security.** No single country or individual can fight AMR alone.

A **One Health approach,** which recognizes that the health of people, animals, and ecosystems are interconnected, **is essential** to effectively mitigate AMR.

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Vaccines, alternatives to antimicrobials and diagnostic tools can reduce reliance on antimicrobials and slow the development of resistance.

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- **Stronger regulation** can ensure high-quality, safe and effective antimicrobials, prevent falsified or substandard medicines, strengthen surveillance, and support resilient supply chains.

- **Harmonised regulatory pathways** can speed access to safe, effective, innovative treatments worldwide.

What can be done to tackle AMR?

- Industry must **invest in new antimicrobials, vaccines and diagnostic tools** to treat, prevent and detect infection and enable appropriate use of antibiotics.

- Policymakers must **create a sustainable market** for new antimicrobials by offering incentives to reward their development and commercialisation.

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- Global regulators, through ICMRA, are working together to **streamline regulatory requirements to facilitate access to critical antimicrobials** around the world, while safeguarding safety, efficacy and quality.

- **International collaboration and communication** are key to raising awareness and driving change.

AMR is not a future challenge. It is happening now.

A collective action can minimise its impact.

Act now to protect our present and secure our future. United global action can save millions of lives.

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