

# Progress in the Face of Increasing AMR and Funding Challenges

# Welcome to The AMR Global Health Academy Newsletter

August 2025

The AMR Global Health Academy serves the global health professional and antimicrobial steward in low- and middle-income countries with a free online educational curriculum designed to advance AMR knowledge and best practices. Every month, via the Newsletter, we share important updates from the AMR field, especially as it relates to AMR testing, diagnostics, and surveillance. We feature news stories, articles, events, resources, and AMR champions battling the real-world AMR problems.

The AMR Academy has numerous courses and educational activities designed to empower AMR stewards, particularly global health professionals from LMICs. We recently launched the second case in our 2025 AMR Problem Solving Case Study series (also available in Français, Português, and Español). You may be familiar with our case studies from last year. This year we are focusing on the community and journalism to drive action against AMR.

To join the AMR Global Health Academy, enroll in the Global Health Continuing Professional Development (GHCPD) free online AMR courses **here**.

# AMR Global Health Academy Champions

Training of Trainers (TOT) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and CPD Healthcare Education in Somaliland

In this newsletter, we highlight a new initiative that will build capacity in healthcare education and create educational leaders. One of our AMR Global Health Academy learners and AMR Champion, **Ali Mahmoud Youssouf**, has put together a 'training of trainers' curriculum he will

run in Somaliland in partnership with local hospitals and academic institutions.

Somaliland suffers from many of the same issues in other low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) where antibiotic misuse, lack of diagnostic capacity, and limited public health awareness remain among the top healthcare challenges.

This training initiative introduces healthcare providers nominated by their institution to free online GHCPD AMR courses so they can in turn promote these learning opportunities to healthcare professionals at their facility.

**Dr. Ahmed Moumin, Vice President, Adal Medical University:** "We are both honored and delighted that Global Health CPD has selected Adal Medical University as a key partner for this timely and transformative project. This initiative aligns perfectly with our strategic goals of enhancing the skills of our healthcare professionals and strengthening the health sector in the region."

#### Mr. Jimcaale Daahir Ibrahim, Administration representative, Al-Hayat Hospital:

"Participating in the AMR Training of Trainers will be a transformative experience. It will strengthen skills, expand understanding of infection control, and inspire participants to take an active role in combating antimicrobial resistance in our community."

### **News Story**

AMR Surveillance Project in Nigeria is Beginning to See Clear Life-Saving Impacts



Source: University of Oxford, published 28 JUL 2025.

The AMR surveillance project, *Burden of antibiotic resistance in neonates from developing societies* (BARNARDS), has been seeking to investigate the cause and impact of AMR-related neonatal sepsis across Nigeria, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Ethiopia. Globally, 2.9 million deaths occurred from sepsis in children under five years of age in 2017 alone. However, through this project, one hospital in Nigeria observed an almost 50% decline in infant mortality with the project providing diagnostic tools, clinical staff, and improved laboratories. An article on the project can be found **here** and report in *Nature Communications* 

#### here.

The government of the **United Kingdom has decided to shut down the Fleming Fund**, which has led global efforts in fighting AMR. With a significant budget (~£265 million), the Fleming Fund contributed considerably to building laboratory capacity to detect AMR, amongst other initiatives. Thoughtful articles from Sir Jeremy Hunt, the former Chancellor of the UK Foreign Secretary and Health Secretary and Lord Jim O'Neill can be found **here** and **here**, respectively.

## **Article Spotlight**

Emergence of Extensively Drug-Resistant Neisseria Gonorrhoeae



A recent **article** in *Emerging Infectious Diseases* reports a case of extensively drug-resistance *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* in Montreal, Canada. The bacteria were resistant to ceftriaxone and cefixime and had high-level resistance to azithromycin. It is presumed that the man may have contracted the drug-resistant bacteria after sexual encounters with female sex workers from outside the country.

An additional **study** in *Nature Communications* analyzed soil bacteria and potential antibiotic resistance genes – thought to contribute to human health risk. This study found that there appears to be increased risk of human risk to antibiotic resistance due to increased soil antibiotic resistance genes.

## **Creating AMR Awareness**

TB, AMR and Data Use at the Inaugural Global Health

#### Summit 2025 in Malta

Several global health researchers from around the world met last month in Malta at the Inaugural Global Health Initiatives Summit (31 July – 1 Aug 2025). The theme was "Harnessing Data and Multilateral Collaborations to Advance Population Health" and focused on data acquisition, biological repositories, and the use of clinical and non-clinical information obtained from patients and study participants. The Summit was jointly hosted by the University of Malta (Dr. Neville Calleja, Head Public Health Program) and University of Central Florida (Dr. Elena Cyrus, Department of Population Health Sciences). Presenters included global health experts Segundo Leon (Universidad Privada San Juan Bautista, Peru) and Martin Seychell (ECDC), among many others. Dr. Pohl Milon (Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas, Peru) presented several AMR studies from Peru demonstrating how genomics and biochemical data obtained in resistance studies should be shared and maintained with open access to facilitate the use of these resources for the development of new antibiotics and more specific diagnostics. Dr. Leon's presentation highlighted the concerning increasing rates of TB resistance in low-income settings. The Summit provided global health scientists conducting research studies in the US, UK, Ghana, and Malta the opportunity to network and share their results and discuss upcoming opportunities to collaborate and participate in global health initiatives.

Also, GHCPD Founder and GHIG CEO, Dr. Debi Boeras, will be presenting on the AMR Global Health Academy to colleagues at Universidad Privada San Juan Bautista (UPSJB), Peru later this month. UPSJB has been a long-time GHCPD partner. In 2023, GHCPD and UPSJB signed an MOU to collaborate on projects and activities to support Academic Exchange between the two organizations.

#### In Case You Missed It

In 2023, WHO launched a task for of AMR survivors to elevate the experience and voices of those who have battled AMR and its associated complications. On 24 July 2025, the task force convened a Global Dialogue. See **here** for more and the recording.

OpenWHO hosts a self-paced course entitled "Antimicrobial Resistance in the environment: key concepts and interventions". See **here** for more.

The first WHO global pipeline review of antifungal therapeutic products in clinical and preclinical development was published earlier this year. See **here** for more, including a dashboard that helps visualize developer details, stage of development, novel agents, etc.

#### **Don't Miss**

GARDP has an upcoming REVIVE webinar. *Overcoming challenges of tuberculosis drug discovery and development* will be held 9 September 2025 is entitled. See **here** for more and to register.

The AMR Industry Alliance, through its Stewardship Prize initiative, aims to recognize established, innovative approaches to AMR stewardship in LMICs. The prize winner will be awarded 10,000 CHF. The deadline for submitting applications is 1 September 2025. See here

for the eligibility criteria and application form.

The Global AMR Innovators Conference (GAMRIC) – previously the ESCMID-ASM Joint Conference on Drug Development for AMR – will be held 1-3 Oct 2025 in London, UK. See here for initial details. Registration opened on 5 May.

ICARe (Interdisciplinary Course on Antibiotics and Resistance) will be held 11-19 October 2025 in Annecy, France. See **here** for details. Applications will open in March.

IDWeek 2025, the annual meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America will be held 19-22 October 2025 in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. See **here** for details.

ASM Global Research Symposium on the One Health Approach to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), hosted in partnership with the Centre for Infectious Disease Research (CIDR) at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) will be held 29-31 Oct 2025. See here for details.

The journal *Antibiotics* is planning for a special issue entitled, "Antibiotics: Utilization, Resistance, and Infection Prevention". The editors are inviting submissions for this special issue that addresses various aspects of AMR, including its mechanisms, transmission dynamics, and global impact. Manuscript submissions are due 31 October 2025. Please see **here** for more information.

World Antibiotic Awareness Week (WAAW) will be held 18-24 November 2025. As events are organized, details will be shared in upcoming newsletters.

The 10th AMR Conference 2026 will be held 3-4 March 2026 in Basel, Switzerland. Once available, details will be **here**.

2026 Gordon Research Conference (GRC), *Antibacterials of Tomorrow to Combat the Global Threat of Antimicrobial Resistance*, will be held 8-13 March 2026 in Tuscany, Italy. See **here** for more details.

ESCMID Global 2026, the annual meeting of the European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, will be held 17-21 April 2026 in Munich, Germany. See **here** for more.

#### What's Next

Though AMR risks and prevalence continues to increase and funding challenges remain ongoing, new solutions and therapeutics remain critical. In some settings, focusing on relatively basic services, such as improved laboratory capacity and strengthened clinical staff, can have a significant impact on improving the lives of those impacted by AMR.

Support for this initiative has been provided through an unrestricted educational grant from bioMérieux.