



World Federation of Public Health Associations
Fédération Mondiale des Associations de Santé Publique
Federación Mundial de las Asociaciones de Salud Pública

PRESS RELEASE

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WFPHA calls for integrated action on AMR

The World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) is calling on all governments, industry, NGOs, health professionals, public and private research organizations to ensure that public health remains at the centre of all policy and scientific endeavours to tackle the threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The Federation proposes the establishment of antibiotic efficacy as a global public good.

AMR is one of the World Health Organization's (WHO) top priorities. Antimicrobial drugs have played a key role in both prevention and curing infections. However, overuse and misuse of antimicrobials in humans, animals, and agriculture; gaps in infection prevention and control; lack of quality medicines; and inadequate investments in new drug development may be placing the breakthroughs in treatment of infectious diseases over the past 50 years in peril.

During this year's World Health Assembly, WFPHA's call for action at a one-day workshop aims to direct all actors to use an upstream approach as outlined in the *Global Charter for the Public's Health*. Effective health services are essential to facilitate ongoing prevention, protection, and health promotion strategies to mitigate the adverse effects of AMR. Essential enablers for resilient and secure health systems include the maintenance of good governance, accurate information, capacity building, and effective advocacy.

"The last thing we need is to go backwards in terms of protecting the world from infection. AMR is one of our greatest challenges in protecting our people worldwide. Integrating all stakeholders to strengthen institutional strategies is essential to face antimicrobial resistance and develop sustainable health practices." said Michael Moore, the immediate past president of the WFPHA.

Dr Manica Balasegaram, Director of the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP), one of the workshops' keynote speakers said, "Developing new treatments to tackle AMR in isolation jeopardizes the public health return on investment of developing accessible treatments. It's important to move away from working in silos and find ways of bringing together science, policy and public health if we are to successfully address the challenges of AMR."

The workshop will facilitate a transparent discourse on the current public health policies and activities on AMR in a global context by addressing the reality of healthcare systems and public health practice.

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About the workshop

The International Global Health & Antimicrobial Resistance Workshop will take place on May 23rd, 2018 at the Institute of Global Health at Chemin des Mines 9, 1202 Geneva from 8.30 to 17.00.

The workshop program and the Call to Action are available at <http://www.wfpha.org/events2/workshops>.

About WFPHA:

The WFPHA is an international, nongovernmental organization composed of over 120 associations' member, mostly multidisciplinary national public health associations, and representing around 5 million public health professionals worldwide. It is the only worldwide professional society representing and serving the broad field of public health. WFPHA's mission is to promote and protect global public health since more than 50 years.

Main contacts

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