

UPDATE ON IN-COUNTRY AMR ACTIVITIES

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ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE: The emerging problem

- Antimicrobials are used in human and veterinary medicine to control bacterial infections. They destroy or inhibit sensitive strains. Unfortunately they also lead to the selection of resistant bacteria that not only survive, but also multiply and spread with severe public health and animal health (livestock production) consequences. In many countries, antimicrobial agents are also used for non-therapeutic purposes in animal production which promote development of AMR.

Global Action Plan (GAP)

- Noting that AMR is a major public health problem that requires a range of interventions and a “multisectoral” approach, the World Health Assembly adopted a Global Action Plan (GAP) on antimicrobial resistance in May 2015

GAP Strategic Objectives

The GAP is underpinned by 5 strategic pillars :

- (1) Improve awareness and understanding of the AMR problem;
- (2) Strengthen knowledge through surveillance
- (3) Reduce the incidence of infection through infection prevention and control (IPC) measures;
- (4) Optimise the use of antimicrobial agents; and
- (5) Ensure sustainable investment in the countering of AMR.

GAP.....

- Member States were urged to have in place, within two years of the endorsement of the GAP, national action plans (NAPs) on AMR aligned with the GAP and to implement standards and guidelines established by intergovernmental bodies such as FAO and OIE.

GAP.....

- Following the adoption by the World Health Assembly in May 2015 of the global action plan (GAP) to combat antimicrobial (Antibiotic) resistance (AMR), the World Health Organisation Regional Office for Africa (WHO AFRO) hosted a workshop for the development of national action plans (NAPs) for the prevention and containment of AMR using the “**ONE HEALTH**” approach in Harare, Zimbabwe on 25th -27th January, 2017.

“One Health” Approach concept

- The concept of one health emphasises the interconnectedness of the health of people and animals and how they are bound by the health of the ecosystem in which they exist. The goal of One Health is to encourage the collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines-working locally, nationally, and globally-to achieve the best health for people, animals, and the environment.

Workshop Representation

- The workshop was attended by the representatives from the Ministries of Health, Ministries of Agriculture and Ministries of Environmental Affairs from 13 countries namely Botswana, Eritrea, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, South Sudan and Swaziland. Representatives of World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), WHO country offices, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) also attended the workshop.

Political Declaration on AMR

- During the 71st UN General Assembly – High Level Meeting on AMR in September 2016, the world leaders made a political declaration to commit to working at national, regional and global levels to develop and implement multisectoral NAPs, programs and policy initiatives in line with the One Health Approach

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

- Brief AMR NFPs on operational guidelines, manuals, resources and tools to assist the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of NAPS
- Facilitate multi-sectorial collaboration and establish linkages amongst NFPs and other stakeholders representing human health, the veterinary, agricultural and environmental sectors to ensure multi-sectorial ownership of NAPs.

Progress with NAP

- Botswana has embarked on developing the NAP
 - Governance structure in place
 - TWGs developed
 - Engaged technical assistant from WHO to lead in the situational analysis and drafting of the NAP; currently on-going
 - One of the TWG (Surveillance and Research) will be leading in the monitoring of use of antimicrobials

Policies in place....AMR

- **National Health Policy:** to attain health for all the Botswana
- **National Drug Policy (BNDP):** established with an aim to make the medicines of acceptable safety, efficacy and quality, available and affordable to all those who need them and to promote their rational use by prescribers, dispensers and custome
- National Drug Policy (2002) :
 - *Articulates rational use of medicines,*
 - *not specific to antimicrobials*

Structures in place-AMR

1. MRA - Medicines regulation
2. BEDAP - Drug selection, rational use of medicines;
3. CMS - selection, forecasting, procurement, storage, distribution
4. NDQCL- quality control
5. FACILITIES - usage/ consumption

Supporting documents

- Botswana Essential Medicines List:
 - Updating,
 - categorization of prescription levels,
 - control measures
- Botswana Antimicrobial Guide:
 - Updating,
 - implementation,
 - monitoring of adherence

Facilitating committees/programmes

- Drugs and Therapeutic Committees
- Infection Control Committees
- Antimicrobial Stewardship
Programmes

CONCLUSION

- Functional Supply chain for medicines, lab commodities
- Regular updating of Guidelines
- Adherence to guidelines
- Active facilitating committees to ensure implementation

Conclusion.....

- One health is the way to go
- Hence:
 - Minimized duplication of effort
 - Optimized utilization of resources
 - Synergy of effort applied
 - Maximized outcomes



THANK YOU!

