

Launch of the European Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections strives to improve antibiotic use

Paris, 13th September 2017

The European Commission, policymakers and organizations from 28 countries meet at the French Ministry of Health in Paris to launch the European Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections (EU-JAMRAI), coordinated by France (French National Institute of Health and Medical Research, Inserm, with the support of the French Ministry of Health)

The Joint Action EU-JAMRAI aims to bring together the participating EU member states and international organizations, institutes, universities to contribute to tackle Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Healthcare-Associated Infections (HCAI). It will capitalize on existing initiatives and propose concrete steps to reduce the burden of AMR.

AMR is a major public health problem that will cause 10 million deaths worldwide by 2050 unless action is taken. EU-JAMRAI is an EU-funded project that will contribute to face this problem, already responsible for an estimated 25,000 deaths per year in the European Union.

This collaboration strives to foster behavioral change at individual and community level and tackle this pressing issue within a "One Health" approach, considering the prevention and control of AMR in humans, animals and environment.

Vytenis Andriukaitis, European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, said "The EU-JAMRAI Joint Action is a vital part of the EU 'One Health' Action Plan on AMR, launched this June. By ensuring that policies for the control of AMR as well as healthcare-associated infections are adopted and implemented across EU countries in a coordinated way, this ambitious pan-European, multi-stakeholder, project is vital to achieve the goal of making the EU a best practice region. AMR is indeed one of the biggest public health threats we face today, and the most pressing priority spanning both pillars of my portfolio. I would like wish all participants every success with this indispensable joint collaboration."

Given the many international and European initiatives on AMR such as WHO Global Action plan, the recently adopted EU action plan, the JPI AMR or the Council Conclusions on AMR, EU-JAMRAI aims to ensure that policies for control of AMR and healthcare-associated infections are adopted and implemented across EU Member States in a coordinated way.

No less than 44 partners and 38 collaborating stakeholders from all over Europe participate in this JA. Key international organizations such as WHO Europe, OECD, OIE and FAO will take part in this project to fuel the debate with their expertise and ensure consistency with existing initiatives. Additionally, representatives from health professionals, patients and industry will take part in EU-JAMRAI.

EU-JAMRAI is funded by the participating partners and the Health Programme of the European Union with total budget of 6 963 604€, with 4 178 162€ from the EC.

EU-JAMRAI Work Packages

WP1: Coordination of the Project. Leader: Inserm, France.

WP2: Dissemination. Leader: Spanish Agency of Medicines and Medical Devices (AEMPS), Spain.

WP3: Evaluation of the project. Leader: Istituto Superiore di Sanita' (ISS), Italy.

WP4: Integration in National Policies and sustainability. Leader: Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (MoH-FR), France.

WP5: Implementation of One Health national strategies and National Action Plans for AMR. Leader: Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS), The Netherlands.

WP6: Policies for prevention of Health Care Associated Infections and their implementation. Co-leaders: Hellenic Center for Disease Control and Prevention (HCDCP), Greece & Public Health Agency of Sweden (FOHM), Sweden.

WP7: Appropriate use of antimicrobials in human and animals. Co-leaders: Norwegian Institute of Public Health (FHI), Norway & AEMPS, Spain.

WP8: Awareness raising and Communication. Leader: AEMPS, Spain.

WP9: Prioritizing and implementing research and innovation for public health needs. Co-leaders: Norwegian Institute of Public Health (FHI), Norway & Inserm, France.

