WHAT ARE ANTIMICROBIALS?

An antimicrobial is an agent (natural, semisynthetic, synthetic in origin) that kills or inhibits the growth of microorganisms. Antimicrobials have saved millions of lives, and made procedures such as common surgeries, cancer treatments and organ transplants possible.

WHAT IS AMR?

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a global health threat. Increasing economic and regulatory obstacles have shifted the scientific community away from the development of new antimicrobials that could combat these infections.

WHAT POLICYMAKERS CAN DO

Support policies that would provide incentives and stewardship measures that allow innovators to develop new life-saving medicines.

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- Remove financial hurdles and equip doctors with a full array of treatment options
- Create financial incentives that spur companies’ ability to develop innovative new medicines to treat serious, and life-threatening diseases
- Ensure that patients can get the drugs they need, when they need them
- Encourage the appropriate use of antimicrobials
- Streamline the regulatory process to decrease the amount of time needed for new drugs to reach the market
- Support policies that would provide incentives and stewardship measures that allow innovators to develop new life-saving medicines

Drug resistant infections cost the US $20 billion in excess healthcare costs & $35 billion in lost productivity annually.

The crisis is exacerbated by the fact that US scientific research and development has largely shifted away from investment in new antimicrobials to combat these infections of pharmaceutical investment goes towards antimicrobial development. Only 6 of the top 50 drug companies in the world still developing antimicrobials of products in development are being developed by smaller companies.

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Anyone of any age can get an antimicrobial resistant infection.

AMR 10,000,000
CANCER 8,200,000

Minor infections become life threatening.

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