

iINFLUENCE

Infection in Focus: european network to tackle AMR

Florence
18th-19th January 2024

SCIENTIFIC RATIONAL

Infections due to multidrug-resistant microorganisms are a public health threat worldwide, with a significant negative impact on morbidity and mortality of hospitalized patients. Despite availability of evidence-based guidelines for antimicrobial stewardship, adequate microbiological capacity and infection prevention and control strategies, the actual actions to tackle antimicrobial resistance are still insufficient.

Epidemiological data from the latest EARS-NET report (2021), show that more than 800,000 infections occurred in Europe/EEA due to bacteria resistant to antibiotics, and more than 35,000 people die as a direct consequence of these infections. It is estimated that the related cost to the European healthcare systems is around EUR 1.4 billion per year.

Over 70% of the health impact of antibiotic-resistant infections is directly linked to healthcare-associated infections. Between 2020 and 2021, the number of reported cases increased for all pathogens, in particular for carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Acinetobacter spp* (commonly causing healthcare-associated infections) the number of attributable deaths increased by approximately 50%.

Three main strategies have been identified to address the challenge of antibiotic resistance and to prevent the spread of resistant bacteria:

- Prudent antimicrobial use (only when they are necessary)
- Implementation of high standards for infection prevention and control, including hand hygiene, and screening/isolation of patients infected/colonized with multidrug-resistant pathogens in hospitals
- Research and development of new antibiotics with innovative mechanisms of action

But not only infections due to resistant bacteria are worrying public health, in fact the attention is also high for infections with viral or fungal etiology, which require increasing efforts to tackle them, as demonstrated by the recent COVID-19 pandemic. Based on these premises, the iINFLUENCE event aims to bring together infectious disease specialists from across Europe to deepen and discuss the latest innovations to tackle AMR and encourage the development of a network for the benefit of research.

PROGRAM

DAY 1

13:30 – 13:40 Welcome and introduction | *D.R. Giacobbe (Italy), A. Vena (Italy)*

Session 1 | Epidemiology of multidrug resistant microorganisms

13:40 – 14:20 The rise of MDR pathogens: insights from epidemiological research | *I. Karaikos (Greece)*

Session 2 | Changes on clinical practice: which are the "influencer" studies?

14:20 – 14:35 Spotlight on multidrug resistant *Enterobacterales* | *M. Peghin (Italy)*

14:35 – 14:50 Spotlight on multidrug resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* | *G. Cuervo (Spain)*

14:50 – 15:05 Spotlight on multidrug resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* | *G. Tiseo (Italy)*

15:05 – 15:20 Spotlight on other multidrug resistant gram-negative pathogens | *V. de Lastours (France)*

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15:20 – 15:40 Discussion

Session 3 | A forward-thinking perspective on the future of infectious diseases

15:40 – 16:40 Insights from two Specialists | *M. Bassetti (Italy), E. Bouza (Spain)*

(In this session, we will provide insights from two senior infectious disease experts regarding the potential future developments of infectious diseases over the next decades. The aim is to outline, based on their expertise, potential future research directions related to the improved management of multidrug-resistant bacteria)

16:40 – 16:50 Discussion

16:50 – 17:10 Coffee break

Session 4 | Workshops

17:10 – 18:40 Speaker training workshops (workshops 1, 2, 3)

Workshop 1 – Medical writing tips | *J. Salmanton-Garcia (Germany)*

Workshop 2 – Empower Academic teamwork | *University of St. Gallen (Switzerland)*

Workshop 3 – Effective presentations: from power point design to special speaking engagements | *Politecnico University of Milan (Italy)*

18:40 Conclusions of day 1

DAY 2

09:00 Overview day 2 | *D.R. Giacobbe (Italy), A. Vena (Italy)*

Session 5 | Workshops

09:20 – 10:50 Speaker training workshops (workshops 1, 2, 3)

10:50 – 11:00 Switch over (coffee available in the room)

11:00 – 12:30 Speaker training workshops (workshops 1, 2, 3)

12:30 – 12:40 Switch over to plenary room

12:40 – 13:00 Discussion | *J. Salmanton-Garcia (Germany), University of St. Gallen (Switzerland), Politecnico University of Milan (Italy)*

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

Session 6 | Managing Challenging Infections in Complex Clinical Scenarios: a Practical Approach (lecture + clinical case)

14:00 – 14:30 Solid organ transplanted patients | *N. Müller (Switzerland), M. Peghin (Italy)*

14:30 – 15:00 Hematological patients | *C. Oltolini (Italy), A. López-García (Spain)*

15:00 – 15:30 Patients in the intensive care or burn units | *A. C. Morris (UK) + T. Lahmer (Germany)*

15:30 – 16:00 Patients with endovascular infections | *A. Vena (Italy) + J. Salmanton-Garcia (Germany)*

16:00 – 16:20 Discussion

Session 7 | iINFLUENCE Community

16:20 – 16:30 iINFLUENCE community: spreading awareness | *D.R. Giacobbe (Italy), A. Vena (Italy)*

16:30 – 16:40 Q&A

16:40 Wrap up messages | *D.R. Giacobbe (Italy), A. Vena (Italy)*