

PHARMACISTS PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) occurs when microorganisms undergo mutations that enable them to resist the effects of antimicrobial agents, such as antibiotics, antivirals, antifungals, and antiparasitics. This results in antimicrobial agents becoming no longer effective in treating or preventing infections.

AMR could take us back to a time where treatable infections, injuries, medical and surgical procedures are life-threatening.

By 2050, if no action is taken:



10 million

global deaths¹



3.8% reduction

in annual global Gross Domestic Product (GDP)²

As a pharmacist,



You can halt the misuse and overuse of antimicrobials

Only dispense antimicrobials when needed and in accordance with guidelines. Where appropriate, re-assess antimicrobial prescription and prompt the prescriber to consider stopping or modifying treatment.

➔ **Ensure 4 rights: Time, Dose, Duration, Antimicrobial agent**



You are a key member of a multi-disciplinary team

Ensure proper documentation and support institutional or national AMR surveillance. Encourage prescribers to document antimicrobial indication, duration and review plans.

➔ Consider adopting the **World Health Organization AWaRe classification** as a tool to ensure the optimal use of antibiotics³



Your actions matter to infection prevention and control

Practise good hand hygiene and utilise the appropriate personal protective equipment according to your institution policies.

