



# **Research and development**

**The Joint Programming Initiative  
Translate research into policy and  
regulation**

**Herman Goossens  
University of Antwerp, and  
Chair**

**Scientific Advisory Board of the JPI -AMR**



## **JPI-AMR**

# **The Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance**





# What is Joint Programming?



## **Aim:**

To pool national research efforts in order to make better use of Europe's public R&D resources and to tackle common European challenges more effectively in a few key areas.

## **Objective:**

Overcome the fragmentation of national research programmes to address global challenges.

## **Action:**

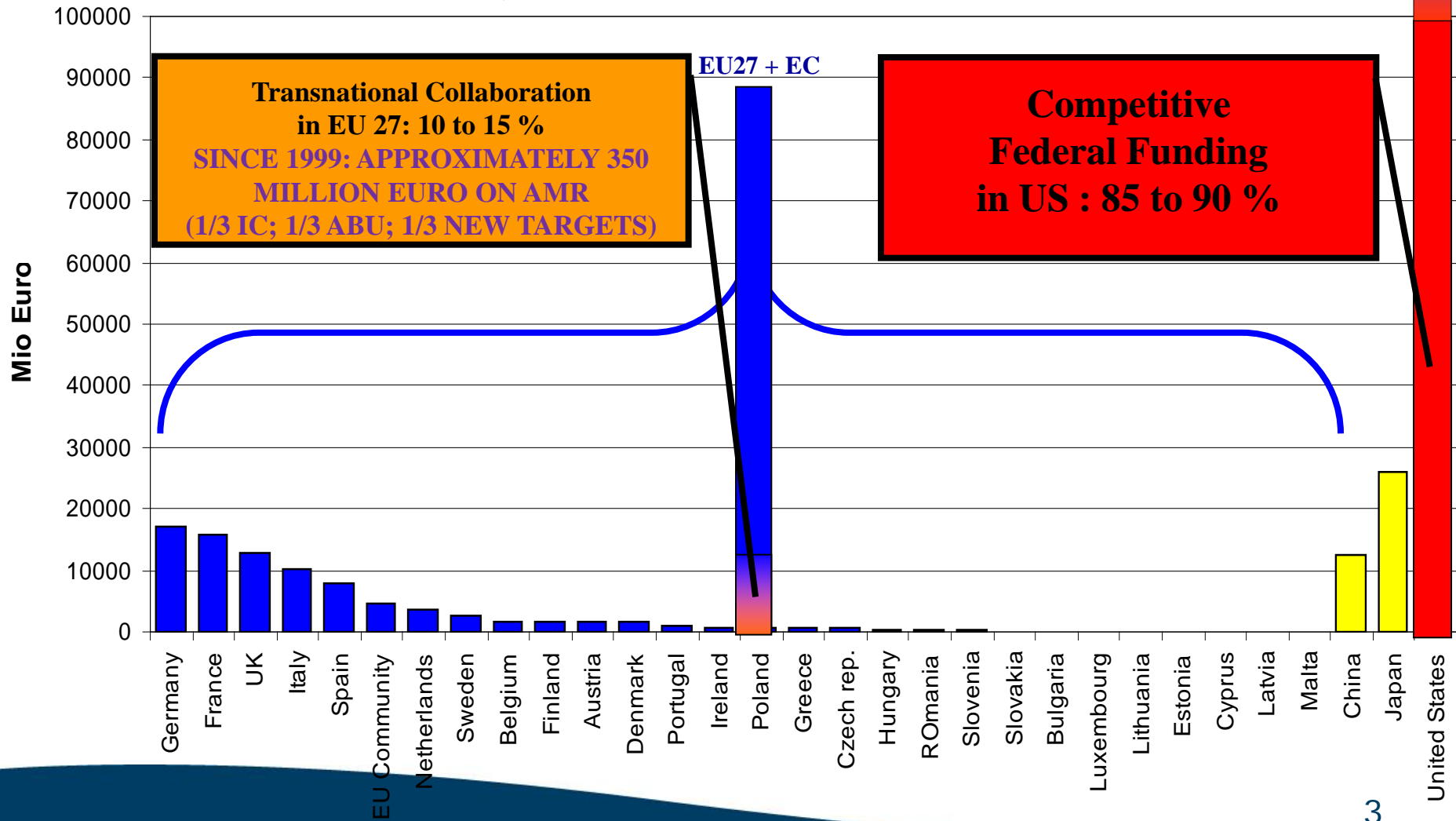
European Member States agree, on a voluntary basis and in a partnership approach, on a common Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) to address major societal challenges which will be implemented jointly.



# Why Joint Programming?



**Public Funding for Research** (Source : ERA Key Figures 2007, EC)





## *Media Release*

Basel, 4 November 2013

### **Roche and Polyphor join efforts to combat multi-drug-resistant bacterial infections**

**Roche licenses investigational antibiotic POL7080 from Polyphor. POL7080 targets *Pseudomonas* species with a novel mode of action. This “superbug” bacterium is commonly found in hospitals and has evolved to become resistant to many antibiotic treatments.**



# JPI-AMR 19 Participating Countries



Belgium  
Denmark  
Finland  
France  
Greece  
Israel  
Italy  
The Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland

Romania  
Switzerland  
Spain  
Sweden  
Czech Republic  
Turkey  
Germany  
The United Kingdom  
**Canada**  
EU Commission

*Malta (obs.)*



# SRA priority topics (current draft)



- A. Development of novel **antibiotics** and alternatives for antibiotics – from basic research to the market
- B. Design strategies to improve treatment and prevention of infections by developing new **diagnostics**.
- C. Implementation of a publicly funded **global** antibiotic resistance **surveillance** program.
- D. **Transmission** Dynamics
- E. The role of the **environment** and sewage as a source for the emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance
- F. Designing and testing **interventions** to prevent acquisition, transmission and infection caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria.



# Next Steps



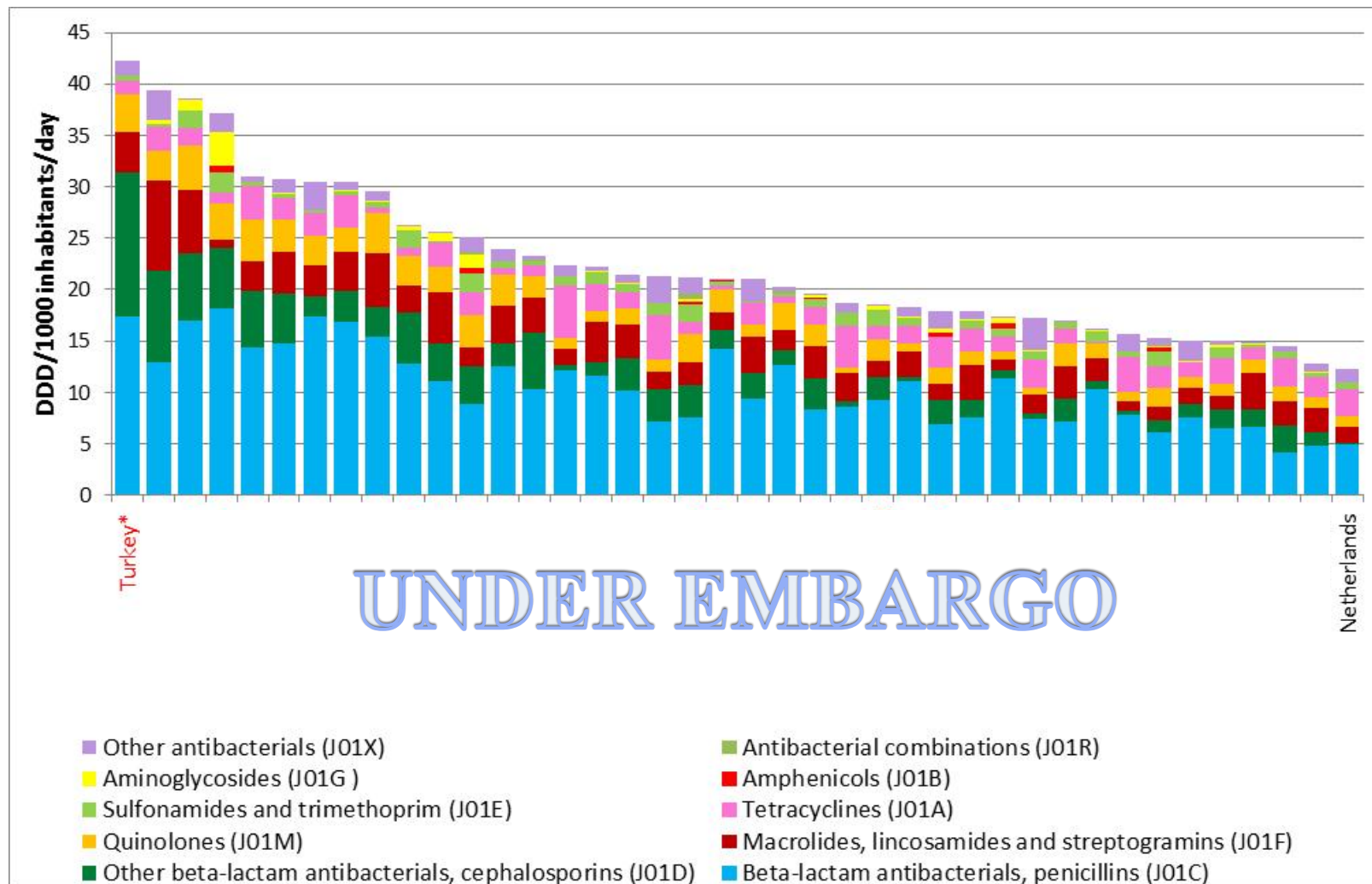
- Final approval of the Strategic Research Agenda by the Management Board of JPI-AMR, developed by the SAB
- Finish mapping of AMR research funding, by the MS and the EC
- Launch of the JPI-AMR Strategic Research Agenda (3 April 2014 in Brussels?)
- First call in early 2014 with Canada (about EUR 20 million on topic A: discovery of a new pipeline):
  - A dozen JPI-AMR countries have preliminary agreed to participate
  - Pre-announcement is planned for 15 November (EAAD event)
- Prepare an ERA-net in 2015





**Translate research into policy a  
and regulation**

# Total antibiotic use in DID in 11 WHO/EURO-ESAC countries, Kosovo<sup>o</sup> and 28 ESAC-Net countries



\* Countries reporting only outpatient antibiotic use  
° in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

# Targets set by National Action Plan 2013- 2017

Indicator	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
J01 DDD/1000 inhabitants/ per day	42	40	38	36	35





# New Patient Safety Act January 1st 2011



- Antibiotic prescribing indicator: increased adherence to treatment guidelines for infections in outpatient care, and thereby a decrease in antibiotic prescribing.
  - Long term target for **2014: 250 prescriptions/1000 inhabitants** and year
  - Target for 2011: decrease by 10% of the difference between current level and long term target
- The indicator was based on calculations from a diagnosis-prescribing study about respiratory tract infections in primary care

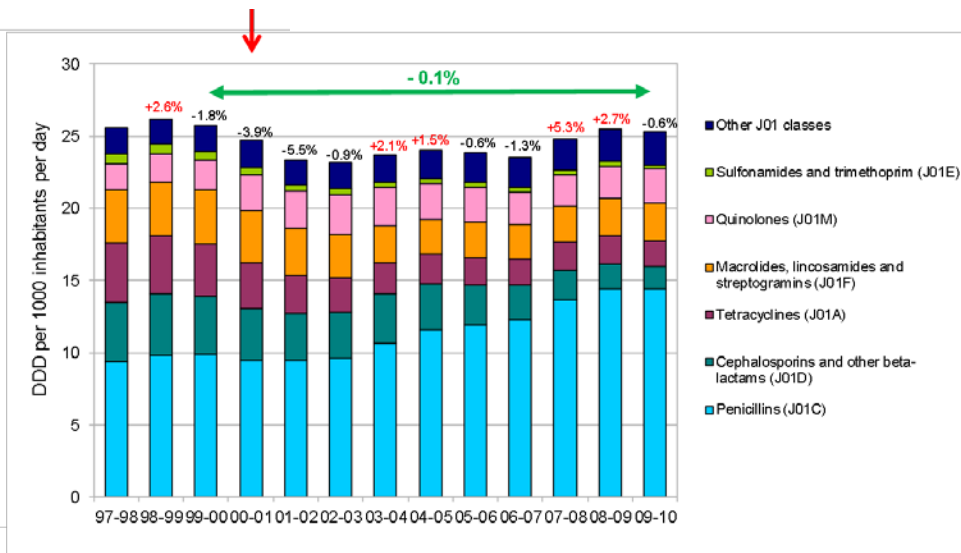
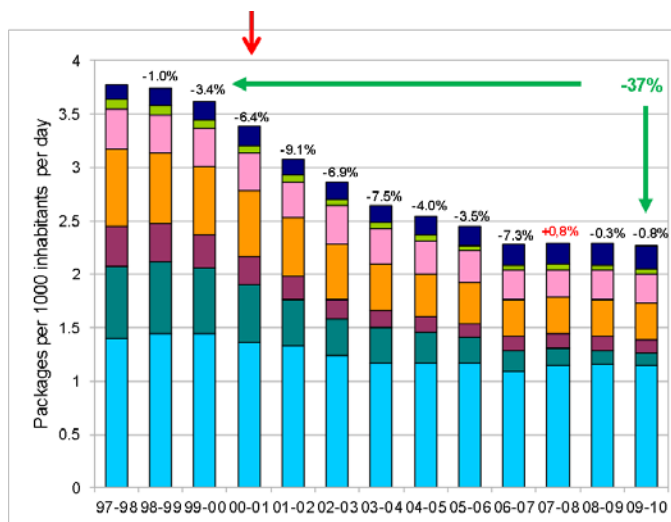




# Which Indicator to Measure Antibiotic Use?

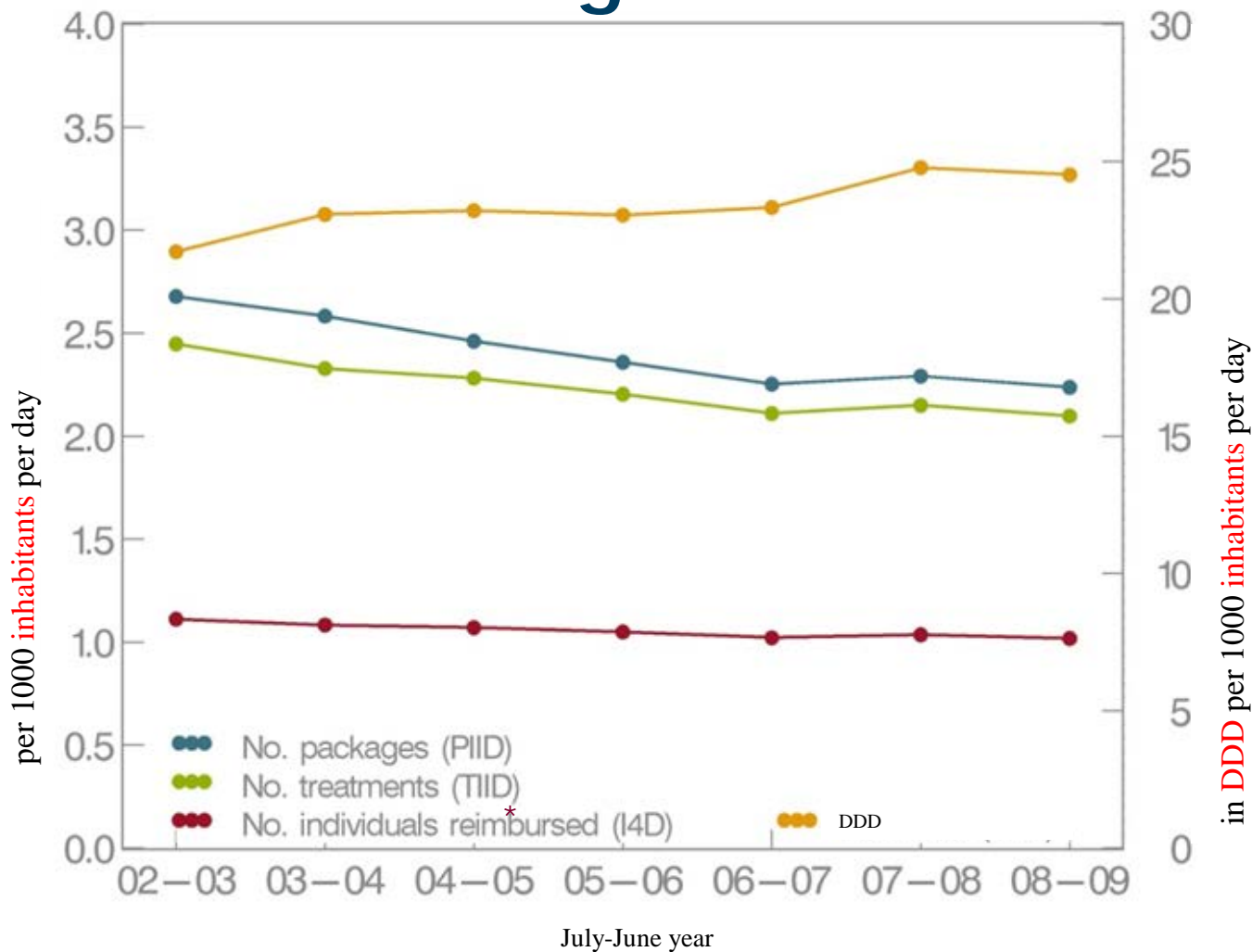


Packages or Defined Daily Doses or ...



Outpatient antibiotic use in Belgium 1997 – 2010 July – June years

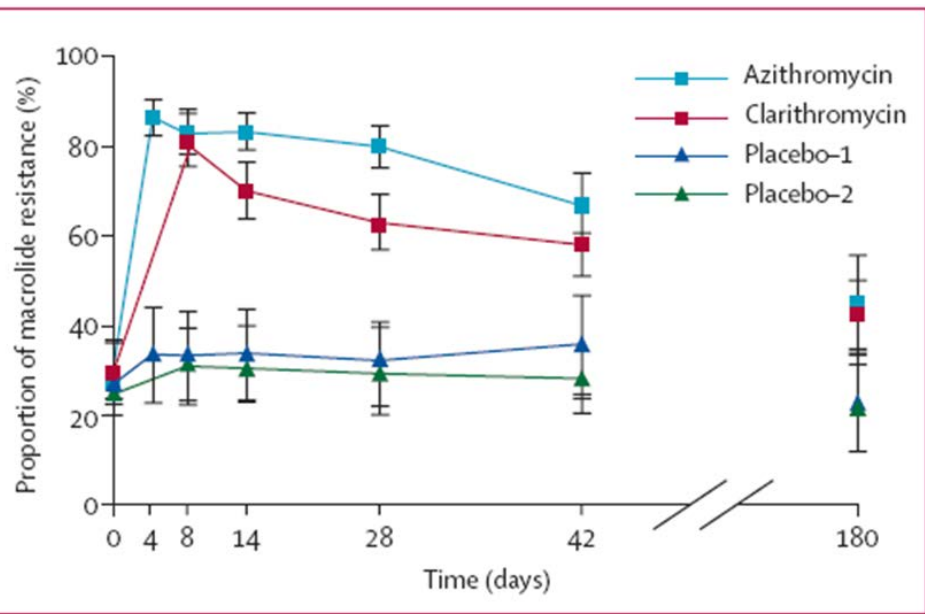
# Outpatient Antibiotic Use in Belgium



\* Excluding self-employed workers; insured only since '08



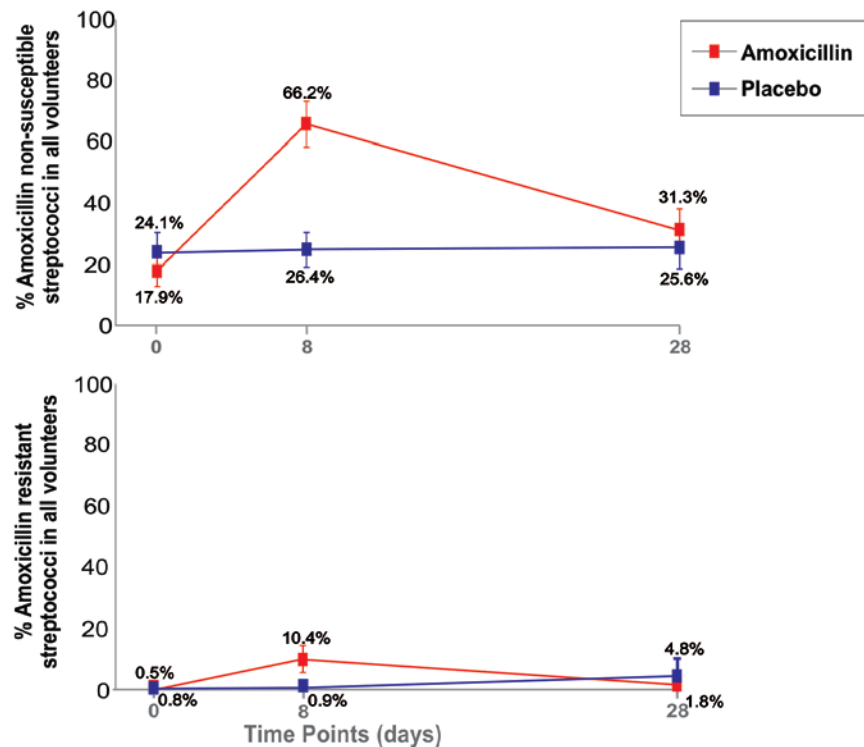
# Quality of Antibiotic Use

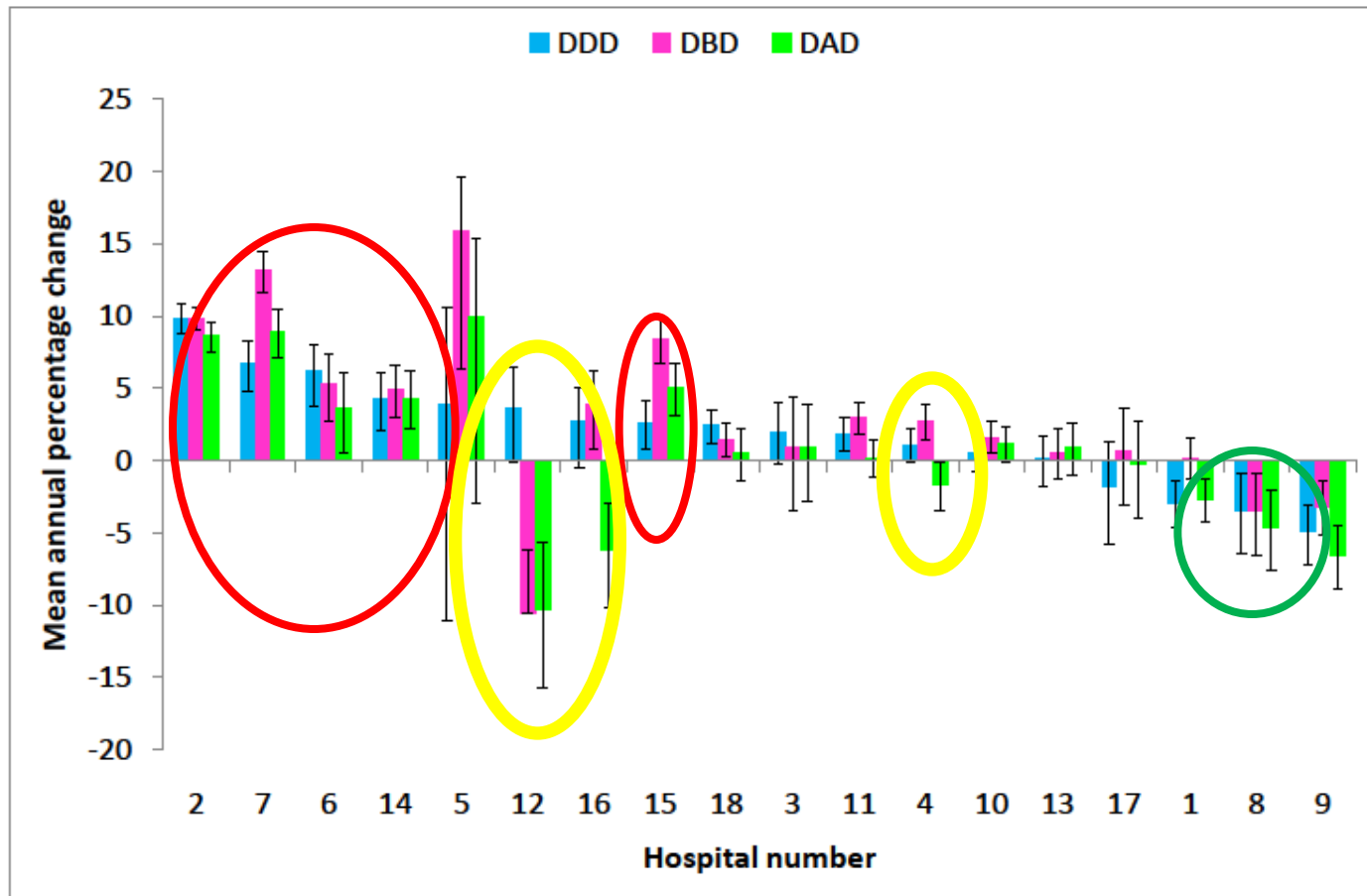


**Figure 2: Temporal changes in the proportion of macrolide-resistant streptococci after azithromycin and clarithromycin use**  
Data shown are for all 204 volunteers followed through to day 42, and for 99 volunteers followed through to day 180. Error bars are 95% CI.

Malhotra-Kumar S, et al. Lancet. 2007;369:482-490.

Malhotra-Kumar S, et al. Lancet. submitted









# Web-Based Data entry



[home](#) [my institution](#) [select institution](#) [my surveys](#) [PDA](#) [my profile](#) [FAQ](#) [News](#) [Documents](#)

Departments ▼ Patients ▼ Download survey data

department	<input type="text"/>
speciality	<input type="text"/>

survey no	<input type="text"/>
gender	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female
age	<input type="text"/>
year	<input type="text"/>
or month	<input type="text"/>

Drug	<input type="text"/>	Route	<input type="text"/>
Unit Dose	<input type="text"/>	Doses /day	<input type="text"/>
Diagnosis	<input type="text"/>	Indication	<input type="text"/>
Guidelines	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Reason in notes	
Compliance	<input type="text"/>		

Save prescription

Delete prescription

Cancel prescription

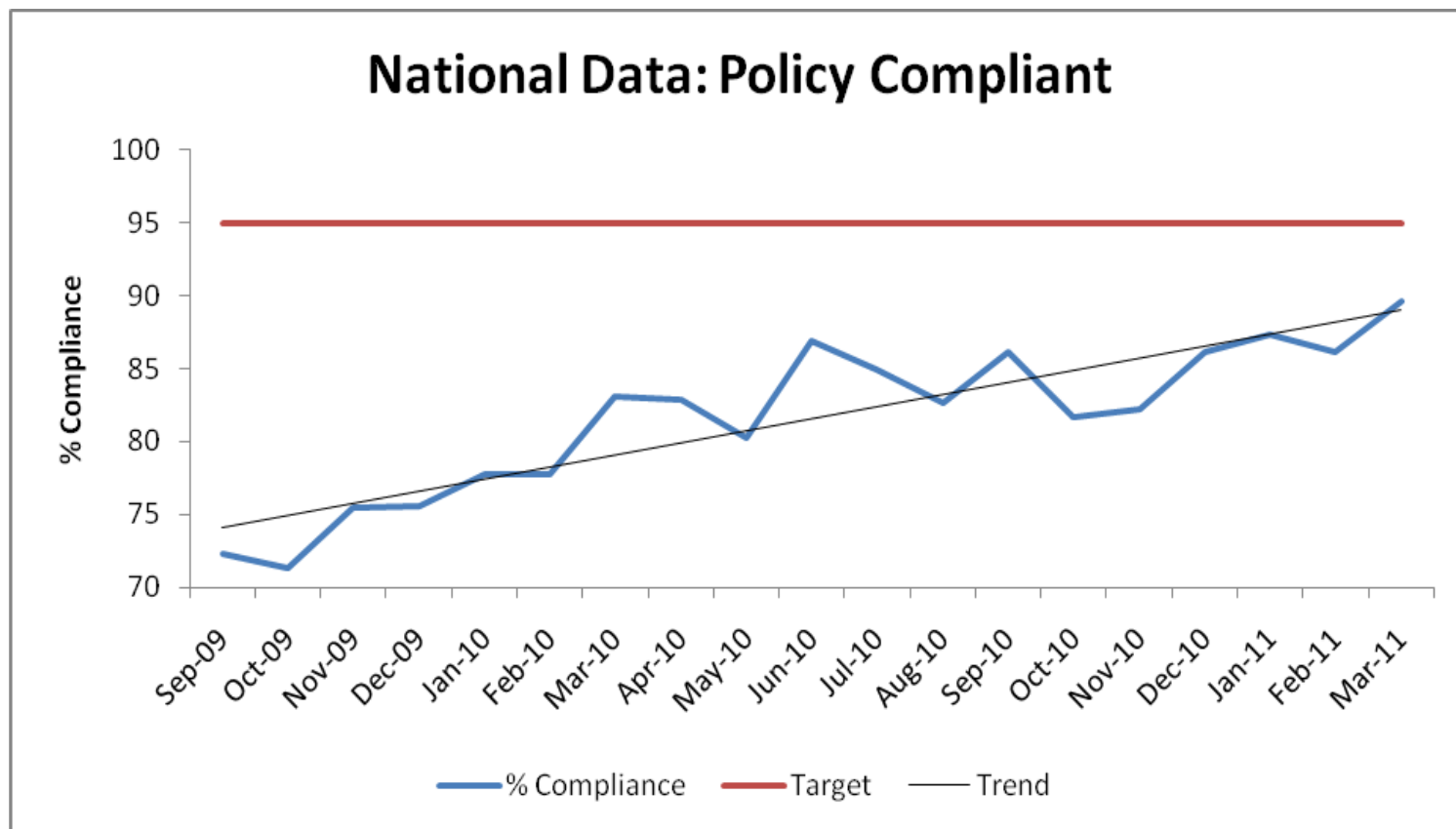
Antibiotic	Dose	No dose/day	Daily dose	Route	Diagnosis	Indication	Compliance	Reason in notes
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- Hospitals included: 31
- Patients included: 8,732
- Treated patients: 28%
- Areas of good practice:
  - Greater use of narrow spectrum antimicrobials compared to the rest of Europe
- Areas where improvement is required:
  - Indication documented: 76% (target: 95%)
  - Compliance with NHS Board guidelines: 58% (target: 95%)
  - Surgical prophylaxis greater than one day: 30%
  - Treated patients: 28%

**Conclusion:** better than European data but room for improvement

# Results Scotland – Policy Compliant



National compliance 83% and 4/14 NHS boards achieved target  
2011 - need to focus on improvement



# GRACE Studies (FP6 project)



- **Observational studies:**
  - About 4,200 patients consulting with acute ( $\leq 28$  days duration) cough as the main symptom.
  - Antibiotic recovery, OTC, Adherence, Compliance
- **Randomised clinical trial:**
  - 2,061 adult patients with CA-LRTI
  - Interventions: amoxycillin 1 gr TID or placebo
- **Intervention trial:**
  - Baseline in 6,774 patients and 4,358 patients post-test
  - 2x2 factorial design (Communication, CRP, Usual care)

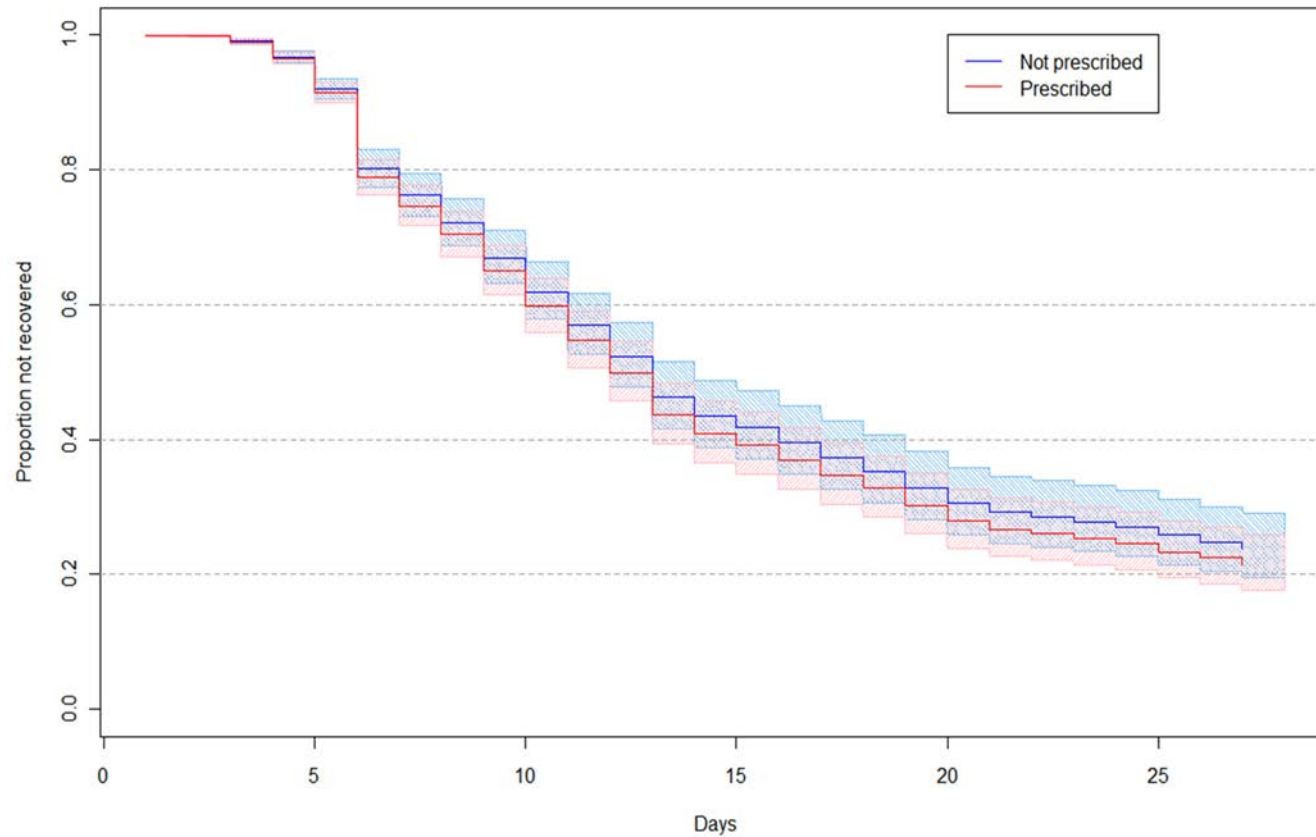


# Primary Care Networks (n=20)





# Proportion of adult LRTI patients not recovered against time (Kaplan-Meier)





# Rapid response to the BMJ paper



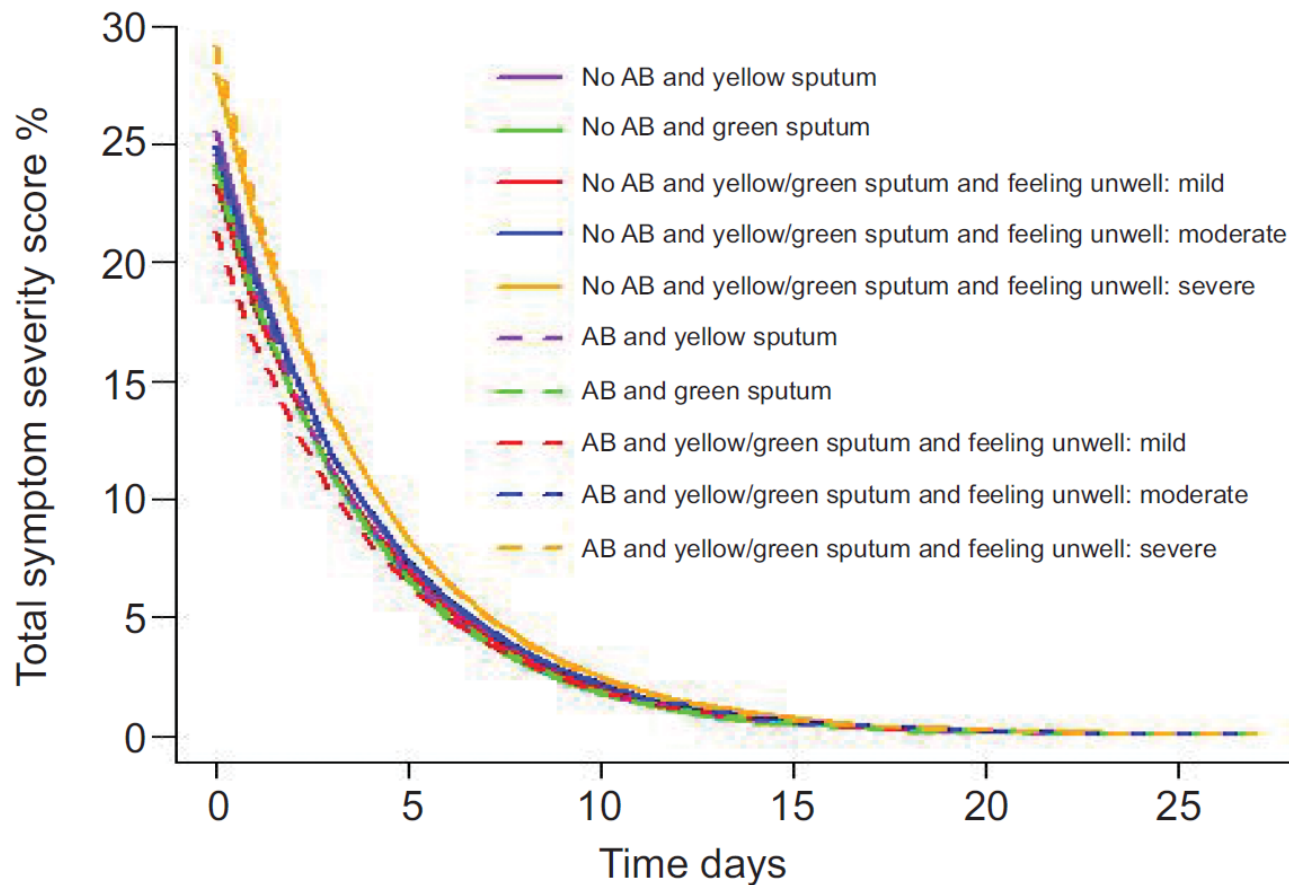
*"I am not surprised at these findings of the GRACE group .... Antibiotics in the otherwise healthy are only needed if the patient feels unwell or has purulent phlegm. "*







# Proportion of adult LRTI patients not recovered against time (Kaplan-Meier)





# Conclusion



Discoloured sputum does influence clinician prescribing.

There was no association between antibiotic prescribing and patient recovery for any patient subgroup investigated



# Antibiotic Self-Medication before Consultation by Country (n=2,530)



Belgium (n=327): 2.8%  
England (n=196): 0.0%  
France (n=30): 0.0%  
Germany (n=171): 0.6%  
Italy (n=43): 25.6%  
Netherlands (n=277): 0.0%  
Poland (n=506): 0.2%  
Slovakia (n=130): 0.0%  
Slovenia (n=130): 0.0%  
Spain (n=492): 2.4%  
Sweden (n=92): 0.0%  
Wales (n=197): 1.0%

# Amoxicillin for acute lower-respiratory-tract infection in primary care when pneumonia is not suspected: a 12-country, randomised, placebo-controlled trial

*Paul Little, Beth Stuart, Michael Moore, Samuel Coenen, Christopher C Butler, Maciek Godycki-Cwirko, Artur Mierzecki, Sławomir Chłabicz, Antoni Torres, Jordi Almirall, Mel Davies, Tom Schaberg, Sigvard Mölstad, Francesco Blasi, An De Sutter, Janko Kersnik, Helena Hupkova, Pia Touboul, Kerenza Hood, Mark Mullee, Gilly O'Reilly, Curt Brugman, Herman Goossens, Theo Verheij, on behalf of the GRACE consortium*

## Interpretation

Our trial is the largest study so far of the use of antibiotics in acute lower-respiratory-tract infection, and adds much to the placebo-controlled evidence noted in the Cochrane review, especially data for patients aged 60 years or older.<sup>16</sup> Compared with placebo, amoxicillin did not significantly affect the duration of symptoms rated “moderately bad” or worse in the first few days of infection, neither overall nor in patients older than 60 years. Symptom severity also did not differ significantly between treatment groups. Amoxicillin prevented some patients from developing new or worse symptoms but the number needed to treat was high and matched by a similarly sized number needed to harm for side-effects. Our data suggest, if anything, a smaller benefit from antibiotics for symptoms and a clearer estimate of harms than did the Cochrane review. Thus, unless pneumonia is suspected, antibiotics should not be prescribed for patients with acute lower-respiratory-tract infection.

**Funding** European Commission Framework Programme 6, UK National Institute for Health Research, Barcelona Ciberde Enfermedades Respiratorias, and Research Foundation Flanders.

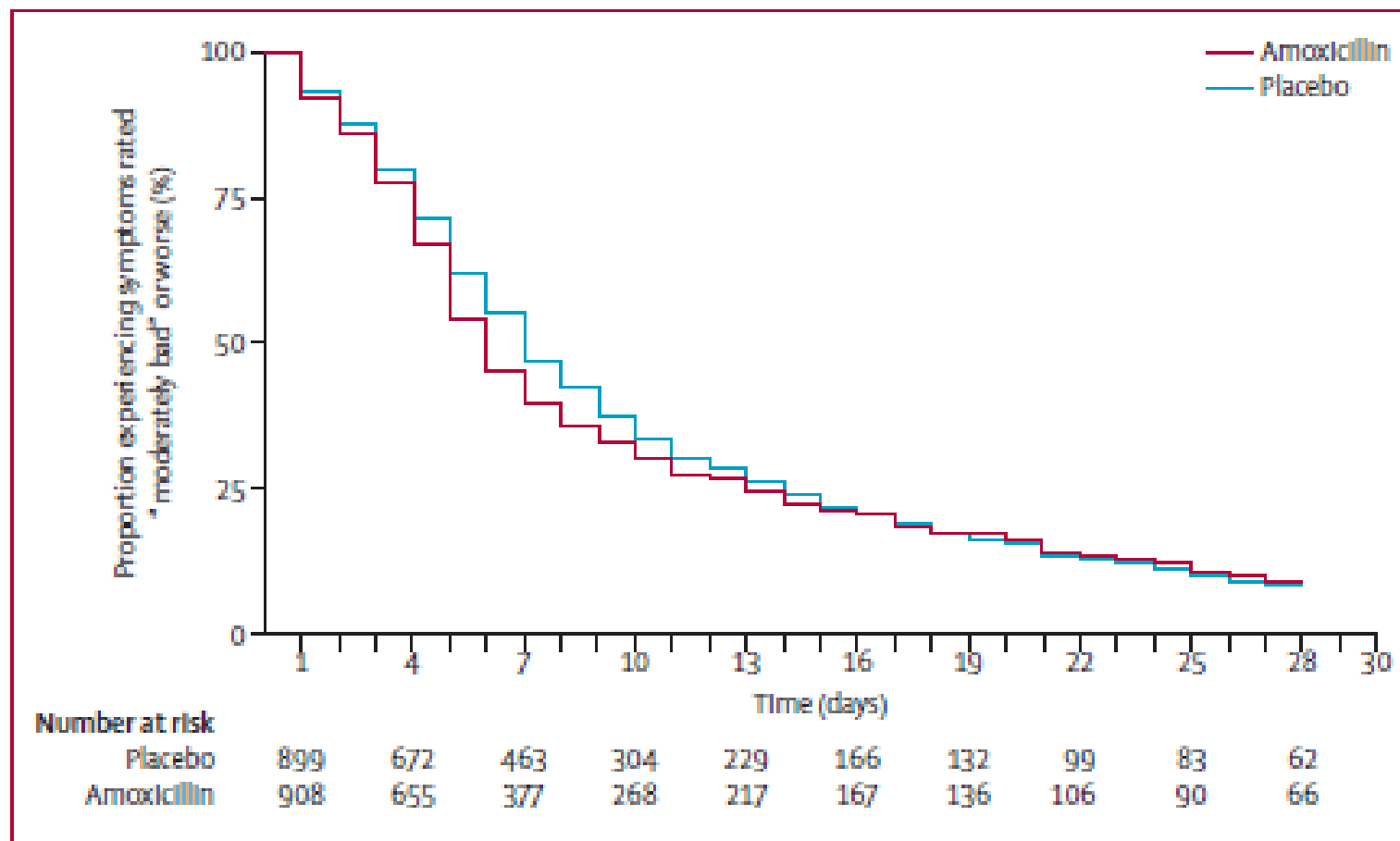


Figure 2: Kaplan-Meier estimates for duration of symptoms rated "moderately bad" or worse

# Effects of internet-based training on antibiotic prescribing rates for acute respiratory-tract infections: a multinational, cluster, randomised, factorial, controlled trial

*Paul Little, Beth Stuart, Nick Francis, Elaine Douglas, Sarah Tonkin-Crine, Sibyl Anthierens, Jochen W L Cals, Hasse Melbye, Miriam Santer, Michael Moore, Samuel Coenen, Chris Butler, Kerenza Hood, Mark Kelly, Maciek Godycki-Cwirko, Artur Mierzecki, Antoni Torres, Carl Llor, Melanie Davies, Mark Mullee, Gilly O'Reilly, Alike van der Velden, Adam W A Geraghty, Herman Goossens, Theo Verheij, Lucy Yardley, on behalf of the GRACE consortium*

**Funding** European Commission Framework Programme 6, National Institute for Health Research, Research Foundation Flanders.



# GRACE Professional Intervention



- National implementation in Belgium
- Expand to other countries, other infections, children, choice of antibiotics



	Usual care	Communication
Usual care	Usual care 58%	Communication training 41%
CRP	CRP training 35%	CRP + Communication training 31%



## Interventions to reduce colonisation and transmission of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria in intensive care units: an interrupted time series study and cluster randomised trial

*Lennie P G Derde, Ben S Cooper, Herman Goossens, Surbhi Malhotra-Kumar, Rob J L Willems, Marek Gniadkowski, Waleria Hryniewicz, Joanna Empel, Mirjam J D Dautzenberg, Djillali Annane, Irene Aragão, Annie Chalfine, Uga Dumpis, Francisco Esteves, Helen Giamarellou, Igor Muzlovic, Giuseppe Nardi, George L Petrikos, Viktorija Tomic, Antonio Torres Martí, Pascal Stammet, Christian Brun-Buisson\*, Marc J M Bonten\*, on behalf of the MOSAR WP3 Study Team*

**Interpretation** Improved hand hygiene plus unit-wide chlorhexidine body-washing reduced acquisition of antimicrobial-resistant bacteria, particularly MRSA. In the context of a sustained high level of compliance to hand hygiene and chlorhexidine bathings, screening and isolation of carriers do not reduce acquisition rates of multidrug-resistant bacteria, whether or not screening is done with rapid testing or conventional testing.

**Funding** European Commission.





# Conclusion



- The EU has funded many research projects which provided great evidence for better use and regulation of antibiotics
- However, translation of these scientific results into educational output to effectively change practice and antibiotic prescribing is a major challenge!
- And I honestly don't know how to do that!