

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Director-General

Brussels,
SANTE/D3/AB/js (2016)

By e-mail only

Dear Ms Ammon, Dear Mr Url, Dear Mr Rasi,

*Dear Andrea, Bernhard,
Guido*

Subject: **Request for a joint ECDC, EFSA and EMA scientific opinion on a list of outcome indicators as regards surveillance of antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial consumption in humans and food-producing animals**

Combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a priority for the European Commission (EC). Surveillance of AMR and antimicrobial consumption is essential to have comprehensive and reliable information on the development and spread of resistant bacteria, assess the impact of measures taken to reduce AMR and monitor progress. Such data provide insights to inform decision-making and facilitate the development of appropriate strategies and actions to manage AMR at European, national and regional levels.

In the EU, monitoring and surveillance of AMR and antimicrobial consumption are currently carried out by the three EU agencies operating in the areas of human health, food safety and pharmaceuticals: the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA).

In order to support Member States in their efforts to reduce infections in humans and animals, the use of antimicrobials in the human and veterinary sectors and antimicrobial resistance in all domains, the European Commission would like to establish a list of harmonised outcome indicators that would allow Member States to assess, in a clear and simple way, the progress made in the implementation of their action plans against AMR.

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Mr Bernhard Url, Executive Director
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In the light of the relevance of the AMR issue for human and animal health, I would be grateful if the three EU agencies could jointly propose, according to the annexed terms of reference, a list of outcome indicators as regards surveillance of AMR in humans, food-producing animals and food derived thereof, and of antimicrobial consumption in humans and food-producing animals by 30 September 2017.

My services remain at your disposal if you require further information. On this matter, you can contact Ángela Bolufer de Gea in DG SANTE G4, responsible for this dossier; Charles Price in DG SANTE C3, the relevant contact point in the Unit in charge of crisis management and preparedness in health; Marina Marini in DG SANTE D1, the relevant contact point in the Unit in charge of science, stakeholders and enforcement; Dean Bosnjak in DG SANTE E5, the relevant contact point in the Unit in charge of animal nutrition and veterinary medicines and Aleksandra Opalska in DG SANTE B5, the relevant contact point in the Unit in charge of policy, authorisation and monitoring of medicines for human use. Their respective phone numbers and e-mail addresses are indicated below.

Yours sincerely,



Xavier Prats Monné

Encl.: Request for a joint ECDC, EFSA and EMA scientific opinion on a list of outcome indicators as regards surveillance of antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial consumption in humans and food-producing animals.

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