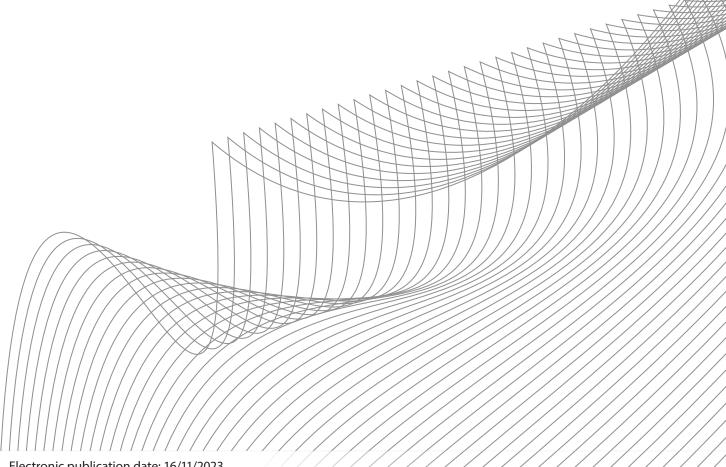


2023 · Volume 47

Communicable Diseases Intelligence

World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week 2023

Antimicrobial Resistance Policy Section, Office of Health Protection, Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care



Electronic publication date: 16/11/2023 http://health.gov.au/cdi

Communicable Diseases Intelligence

ISSN: 2209-6051 Online

This journal is indexed by Index Medicus and Medline.

Creative Commons Licence - Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives CC BY-NC-ND

© 2023 Commonwealth of Australia as represented by the Department of Health and Aged Care

This publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial NoDerivatives 4.0 International Licence from <u>https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/legalcode</u> (Licence). You must read and understand the Licence before using any material from this publication.

Restrictions

The Licence does not cover, and there is no permission given for, use of any of the following material found in this publication (if any):

- the Commonwealth Coat of Arms (by way of information, the terms under which the Coat of Arms may be used can be found at www.itsanhonour.gov.au);
- any logos (including the Department of Health and Aged Care's logo) and trademarks;
- any photographs and images;
- any signatures; and
- any material belonging to third parties.

Disclaimer

Opinions expressed in Communicable Diseases Intelligence are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care or the Communicable Diseases Network Australia. Data may be subject to revision.

Enquiries

Enquiries regarding any other use of this publication should be addressed to the Communication Branch, Department of Health and Aged Care, GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, or via e-mail to: <u>copyright@health.gov.au</u>

Communicable Diseases Network Australia

Communicable Diseases Intelligence contributes to the work of the Communicable Diseases Network Australia. <u>http://www.health.gov.au/cdna</u>

Communicable Diseases Intelligence (CDI) is a peer-reviewed scientific journal published by the Office of Health Protection, Department of Health and Aged Care. The journal aims to disseminate information on the epidemiology, surveillance, prevention and control of communicable diseases of relevance to Australia.

Editor Christina Bareja

Deputy Editor Simon Petrie

Design and Production Kasra Yousefi

Editorial Advisory Board

David Durrheim, Mark Ferson, Clare Huppatz, John Kaldor, Martyn Kirk, Meru Sheel and Steph Williams

Website

http://www.health.gov.au/cdi

Contacts

CDI is produced by the Office of Health Protection, Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care, GPO Box 9848, (MDP 6) CANBERRA ACT 2601

Email:

cdi.editor@health.gov.au

Submit an Article

You are invited to submit your next communicable disease related article to the Communicable Diseases Intelligence (CDI) for consideration. More information regarding CDI can be found at: http://health.gov.au/cdi.

Further enquiries should be directed to:

cdi.editor@health.gov.au.



Notice to readers

World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week 2023

Antimicrobial Resistance Policy Section, Office of Health Protection, Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week (WAAW) runs annually from 18 to 24 November under the auspices of the World Health Organization (WHO) and maintains a permanent slogan (Antimicrobials: Handle with Care) and yearly themes. This year's WAAW theme is Preventing antimicrobial resistance together. The theme is an acknowledgment of the necessity for a One Health approach to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR) most successfully.ⁱ

This year we urge you to remember:

- AMR occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites no longer respond to antimicrobial agents. As a result of drug resistance, antibiotics and other antimicrobial agents become ineffective and infections become difficult or impossible to treat.
- Antimicrobial resistance is a significant global problem. It is happening now and affects everybody, including you, your family and your friends. It also affects our animals and our environment.
- A One Health response to AMR will help save millions of lives, preserve antimicrobials for generations and secure the future from drug-resistant pathogens.
- AMR is happening here and now. It is one of the biggest threats to global health, food security and development today.
- We can all take action in our daily life to reduce the spread of antimicrobial resistance. For example:
 - follow a medical professional's instructions when they prescribe antimicrobials for you and do not take antimicrobials prescribed for other people or leftover antimicrobials prescribed for a previous infection;
 - return leftover antimicrobials to your pharmacy for safe disposal;
 - practice good hand hygiene and cough etiquette; and
 - ensure wounds, cuts and grazes are properly dressed and seek medical professional advice when needed.

To learn more about WAAW 2023, please check the Australian Government's WAAW webpage.ⁱⁱ

i For more information, please visit: https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2023/11/18/default-calendar/world-amr-awareness-week-2023.

ii https://www.amr.gov.au/about-amr/world-antimicrobial-awareness-week.