Antimicrobial resistance (AMR): growing global health threat

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) occurs when microbes, such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites, adapt over time and no longer respond to drugs to which they were initially sensitive, making infections harder to treat and resulting in an increased risk of disease spread, and severe illness and death.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) declared that AMR is one of the top ten global public health threats facing humanity.

1.2 million deaths globally each year due to AMR according to research

10 million people predicted to die every year due to AMR worldwide by 2050 (more than currently die from cancer)

The UK is leading the charge in tackling this global issue:

1 Pull: Implementing innovative reimbursement models to incentivise investment in new treatments

NHS England and NICE have launched a subscription-style payment model for antimicrobials.

2 Push: Supporting new funding streams for the development of innovative drugs and diagnostics

The UK Government provides significant funding for global initiatives, including CARB-X and GARDP, to support the development of new treatments and tools.

3 Nudge: Increasing public awareness and promoting stewardship in the use of antibiotics

The Antibiotic Guardian campaign encourages healthcare organisations, patients and the public to pledge towards responsible use of antibiotics.

The UK is amplifying the WHO Task Force of AMR survivors’ campaign to increase public awareness through patient storytelling.

Learn more at bioindustry.org/AMR