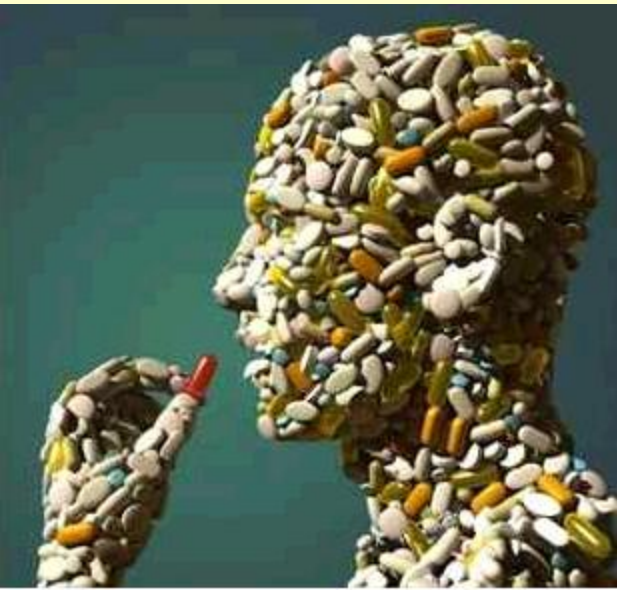


# How to control hospital antibiotic use

Dr John Ferguson,  
Microbiologist and Infectious  
Diseases Physician  
John Hunter Hospital  
Newcastle  
NSW, Australia



**With acknowledgement to Ian Gould**

# High incidence of multi-resistant bacterial infections in Vietnamese patients

7. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol. 2006 Aug;27(8):855-62. Epub 2006 Jul 24.

Microbiology of surgical site infections and associated antimicrobial use among Vietnamese orthopedic and neurosurgical patients.

Le TA, Sohn AH, Nguyen PT, Vo TC, Vo VN, Tran Nguyen TH, Ewald B, Dibley M.

- *Nearly ALL post operative patients given antibiotics for median of 11 days. Nearly all organisms isolated were resistant to the antibiotics given.*

6. Trop Med Int Health. 2006 Nov;11(11):1725-30.

Prevalence of multiresistant Gram-negative organisms in a surgical hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Jones SL, Nguyen VK, Nguyen TM, Athan E.

- High incidence of resistance to quinolones, gentamicin and cephalosporins

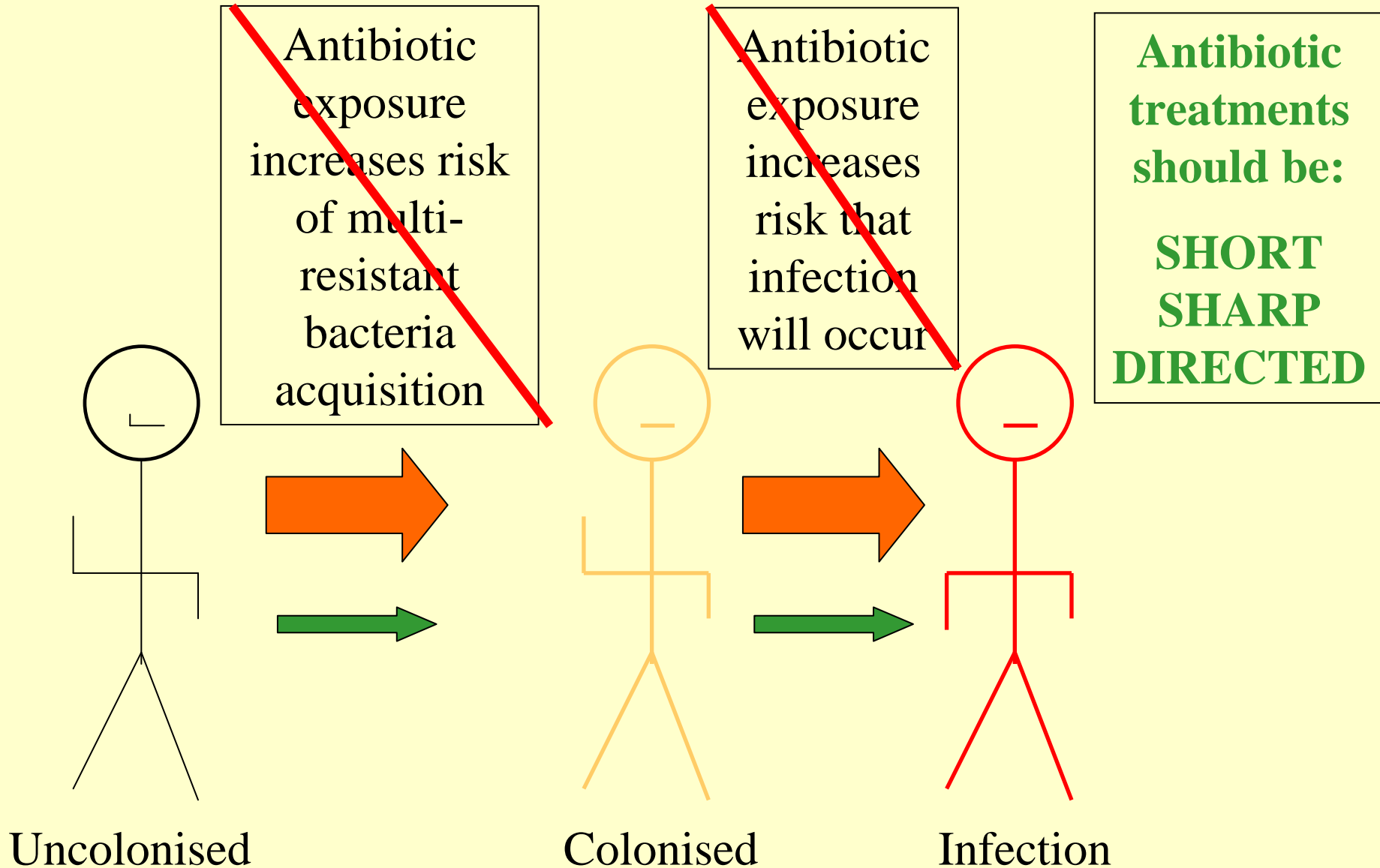
# The impact of antimicrobial multi-resistant pathogens

- Many pathogens have a greater ability to cause disease (virulence)
- Increased capacity to spread between patients and to staff
- Increased complexity of treatment
- Increased likelihood of patient treatment failure, increased mortality
- Increased financial burden

# What to do about resistance

- *Use antibiotics less*
- *Use antibiotics better*
- *Prevent cross-infection*
- *Develop new antibiotics*
- *Surveillance*

# Antibiotics and infection



# Evidence-based antibiotic treatment standard

- Don't treat uninfected or colonised patients!

**SHORT** – use the shortest duration proven by clinical trials

**SHARP** – use correct dose, correct route

**DIRECTED** – use microbiology results to target the bacteria causing the infection

# Evidence-based surgical prophylaxis standard

- Not all procedures need prophylaxis!

**SHORT** – one dose PRIOR to surgery

**SHARP** – correct dose, correct timing

**DIRECTED** – chose the agent based on known local bacterial causes of surgical infection

# Standard for Antimicrobial Prescribing: 'AIMED'

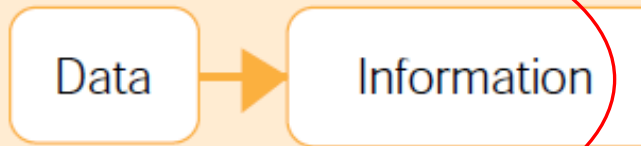
1. **A** ntimicrobial selection and dosage should be compliant with guidelines; assess **A**llergy history prior to use
2. **I** ndication for treatment should be documented.
3. **M** icrobiological assessment- collect necessary specimens PRIOR to first dose
4. **E** valuate at 48-72hrs: assess whether antimicrobial treatment needs to be modified
5. **D** uration or review date should always be specified.



# Controlling use- where to start?

## Surveillance and Research

*Data is the raw material from which  
This information in turn provides knowledge*



### With (good) data you can:

- ✓ assess current performance and identify performance gaps
- ✓ understand the needs and opinions of stakeholders
- ✓ prioritise problems and improvement projects
- ✓ establish overall aims and targets for improvement
- ✓ establish a clear case for the need for improvement.

**A guide to using data  
for health care  
quality improvement Victorian  
Quality Council 2008**

# What to measure?

- What pathogens are causing which community and nosocomial infections?
- Nosocomial infection rates
- Hospital/Unit antibiograms,
- Hospital/Unit antimicrobial (antibiotic) usage and cost
- How do doctors prescribe antibiotics?
  - Cohort studies
  - Point prevalence surveys

# Surveillance of bacterial resistance

- Laboratory must use a standardised method for bacterial susceptibility testing (eg. CLSI or EUCAST Standards)
- Provide feedback to clinical units and infection control about:
  - *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA, Vancomycin-resistant SA)
  - *Enterococcus* species (VRE)
  - *E. coli*, *Klebsiella*, *Shigella* and other enteric organisms
  - *Pseudomonas*, *Acinetobacter*
- Summarise antibiotic resistance data annually for specific clinical units (antibiograms);
- Publish bloodstream infection (septicaemia) data separately

[www.WHONET.org](http://www.WHONET.org)



**WHONET**  
SUPPORTING GLOBAL SURVEILLANCE  
OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

ABOUT US SOFTWARE WHONET COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS EVENTS/NEWS CONTACT US

**Download WHONET**

*WHO Collaborating Centre for Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance*

Welcome

Welcome to the WHONET Community website. Our mission is to build and support the community needed for tracking microbial populations worldwide and to provide the information base required for effective containment and control.

On this site, you will find information on the WHONET software and on activities by our collaborators around the world.

If you would like to leave suggestions for the WHONET team please [CLICK HERE](#).

Free software that enables data transfer from all lab packages in to WHONET which provides summary reports of antibiotic susceptibility.

# Antibiogram example

Gram Positive	No. of isolates	Penicillin	Ampicillin*	Erythromycin	Methicillin*	Vancomycin	Clindamycin
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	#	○	○	○	■		
Coagulase negative staph	#	○		○	■		
<i>Enterococcus</i>	#	◆			■		
Strep pneumoniae#	12	◆	◆	◆	■	■	

Gram Negative	No. of isolates	Ampicillin*	Gentamicin	Cephalexin**	Ceftazidime***	Ceftazidime***	Piperacillin-tazobactam	Imipenem	Meropenem	Ciprofloxacin
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	#	○	■	○	■		■		■	■
<i>Klebsiella</i> species	#		■	◆	■		■		■	■
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	42	◆			■					■
<i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i>	21				○	○	○	■		○
<i>Pseudomonas</i> species	#		■			◆	■		◆	◆
<i>Acinetobacter</i> species¶	17		■				◆		■	■
<i>Enterobacter</i> species¶	86		■				◆		■	■
<i>Proteus mirabilis</i>	55	◆	■	◆	■		■		■	■
<i>Serratia</i> species¶	22		■				■		■	■
<i>Citrobacter</i> species¶	33		■				◆		■	■
<i>Morganella morganii</i> ¶	30		■				■		■	■

\*Amoxicillin provides similar cover    \*\*\*Cefotaxime provides similar cover  
 \*\*Cephazolin provides similar cover    §Meropenem provides similar cover

70-89% sensitive	◆	>90% sensitive	■
Not reported	Blank	<70% sensitive	○

# Strep pneumoniae 73% Fully sensitive, 18% Intermediate

¶ Don't use Cephalosporins - even if reported sensitive

**XXX Hospital**  
**Antibiotic sensitivity profile**  
 Data from 1/1/200X to 31/3/200X  
**Whole Hospital**

# Antibiotic usage

- Pharmacy data – dispensed or purchased drugs; monthly quantities by antibiotic class
- Measure WHO-defined defined daily doses (DDD) for each antibiotic class; expressed as DDD per 1,000 patient days for different hospital units
- Use the results to determine your priorities for action, to calculate costs of treatment and savings from program

**Antibiotic Consumption Calculator-** ABCcalc- free software for calculating antibiotic use

[http://www.escmid.org/research\\_projects/study\\_groups/esgap/abc\\_calc/](http://www.escmid.org/research_projects/study_groups/esgap/abc_calc/)

Our hospital

Average of 23 other  
Australian hospitals

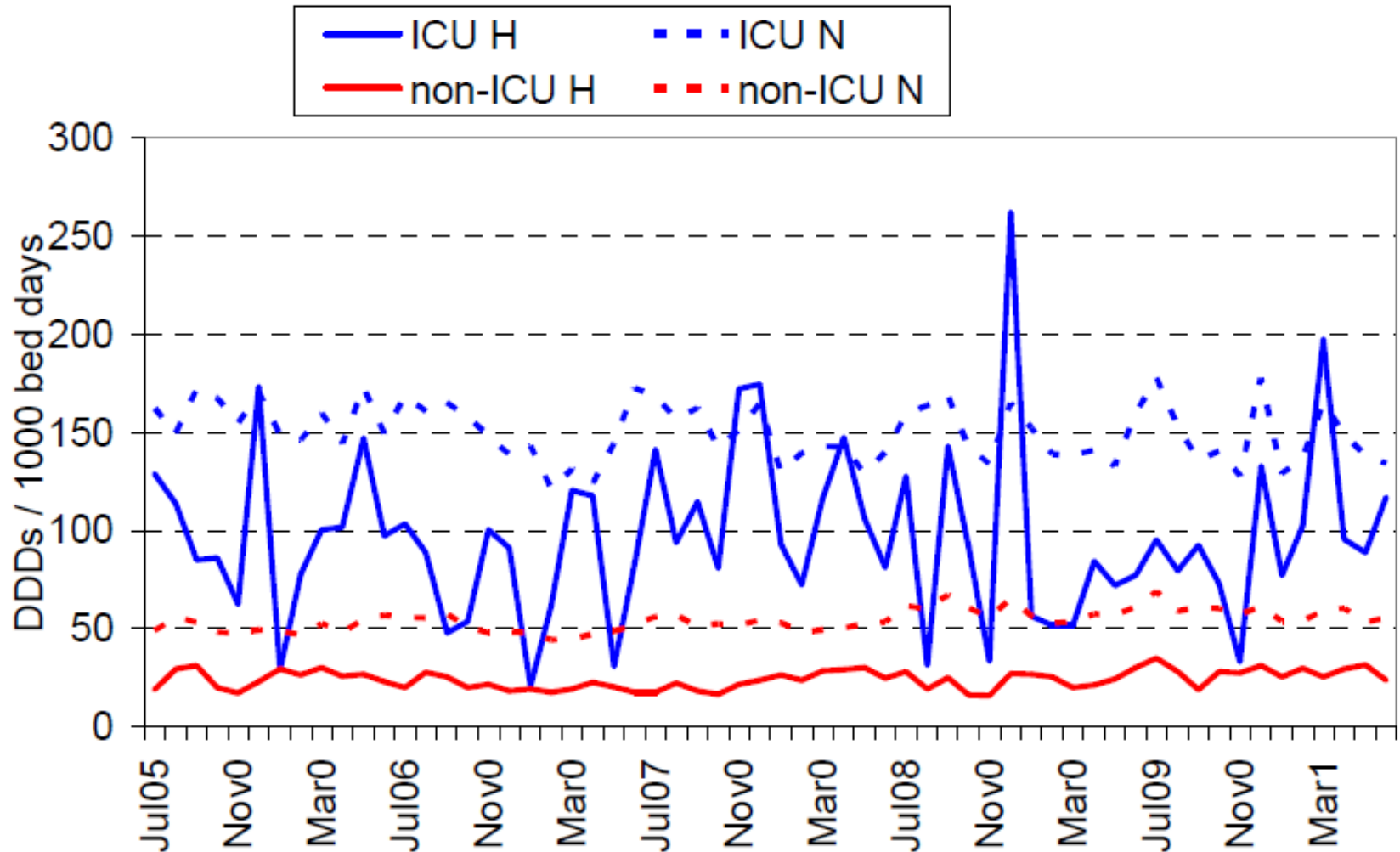
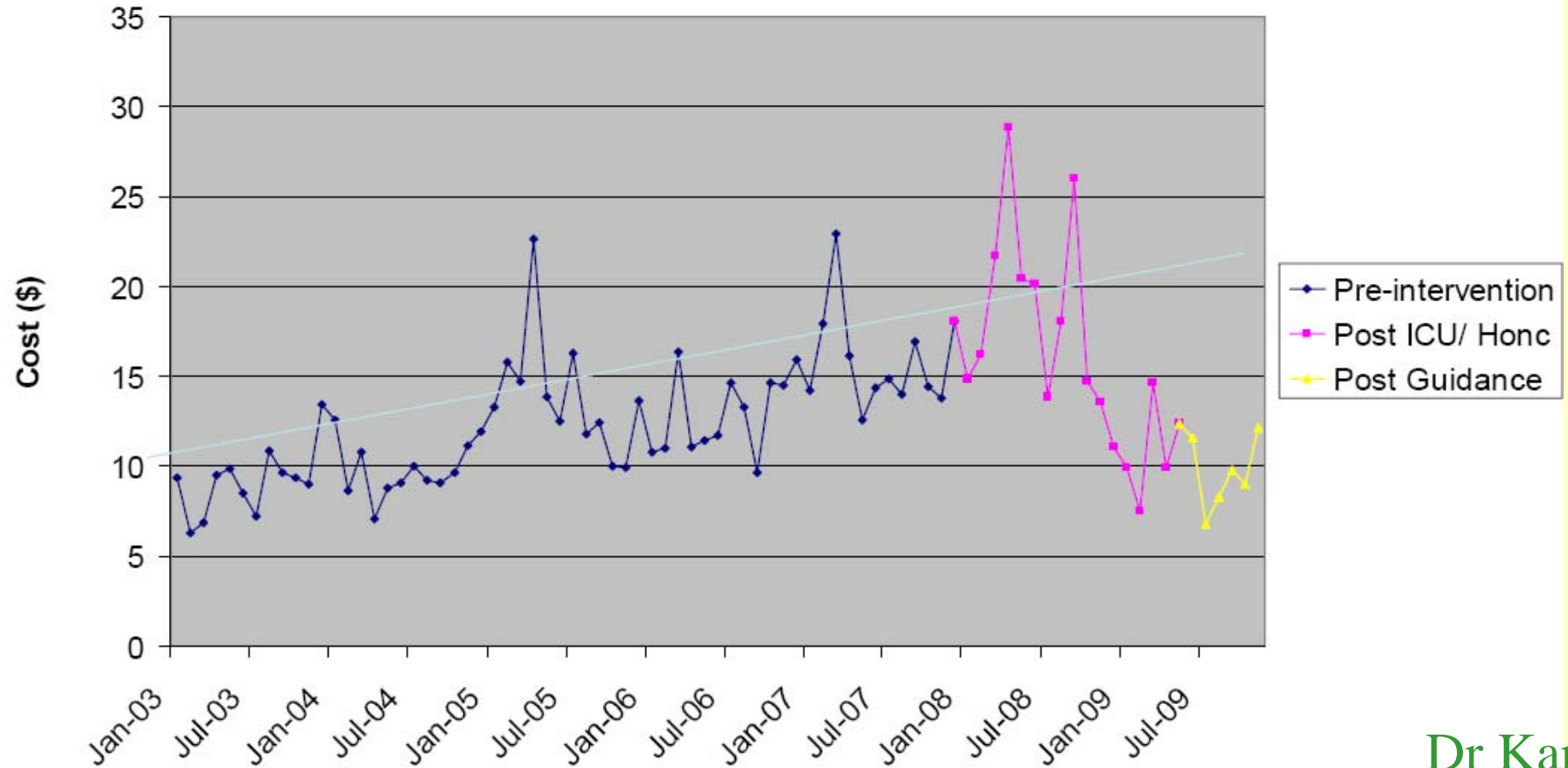


Chart 3: 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> generation cephalosporins

# Royal Hobart post implementation: Combined antibacterial and antifungal cost data

## Antibiotic cost per patient bed-day





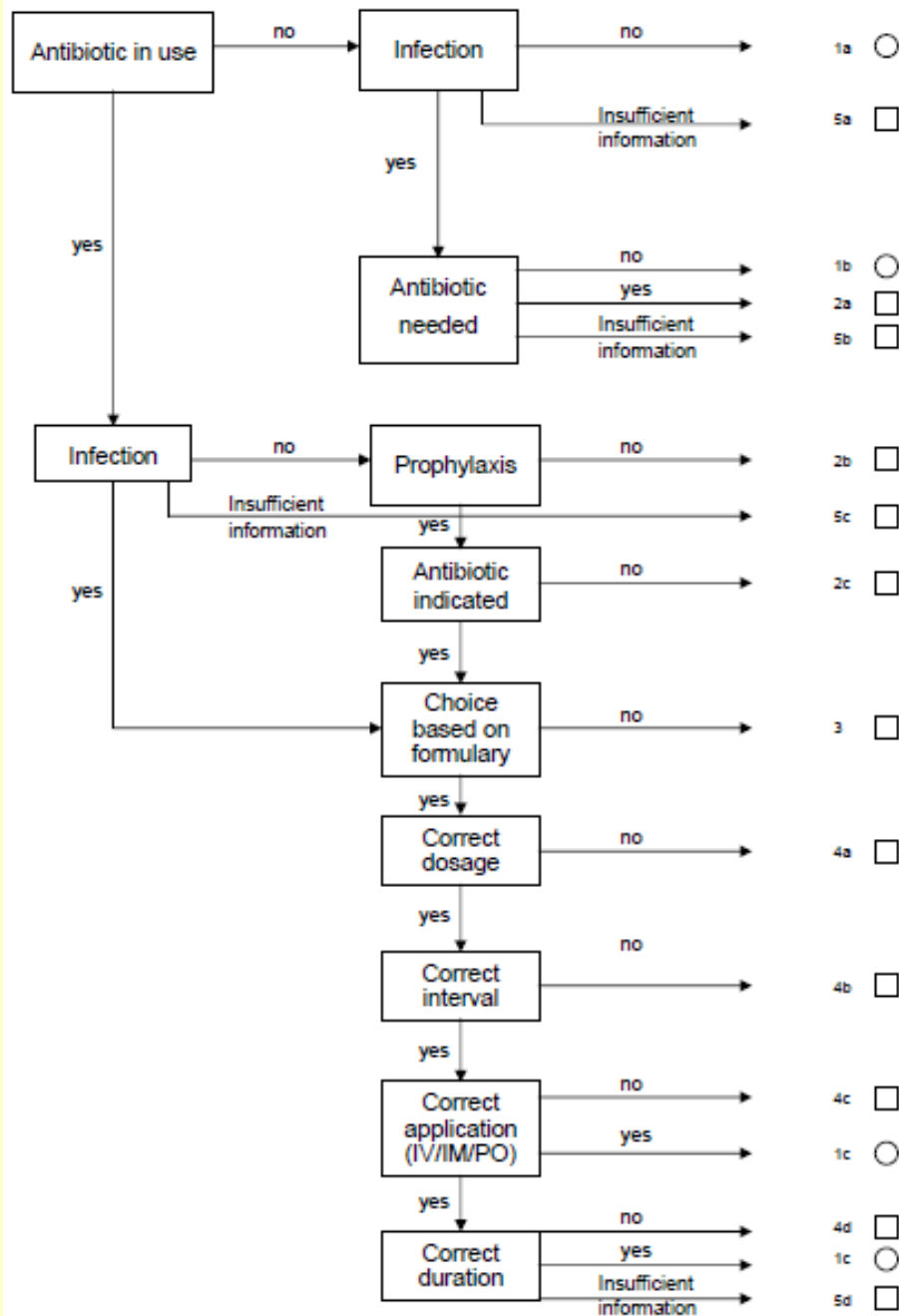
# Cohort study: Surgical prophylaxis audit

- Review medical records of individual surgical cases after discharge
- Assess compliance with guideline (antibiotic, dose, timing, duration)
- What infections occurred in the cohort?  
Were they due to:
  - pathogens that were resistant to the prophylaxis agent used?
  - Or was prophylaxis not effective because of dosing/timing factors

# Point prevalence survey

- Every 6 or 12 months, unit or hospital-wide
- Every inpatient on an antibiotic at 0800hrs visited once on survey day to determine:
  - Antibiotics in use, start, date, route and dose
  - indication for treatment if known
  - reason for treatment- community/ nosocomial infection OR infection not present OR surgical prophylaxis
  - whether treatment was indicated
  - Whether it was compliant with guidelines

# Flow chart appropriateness of antimicrobial therapy



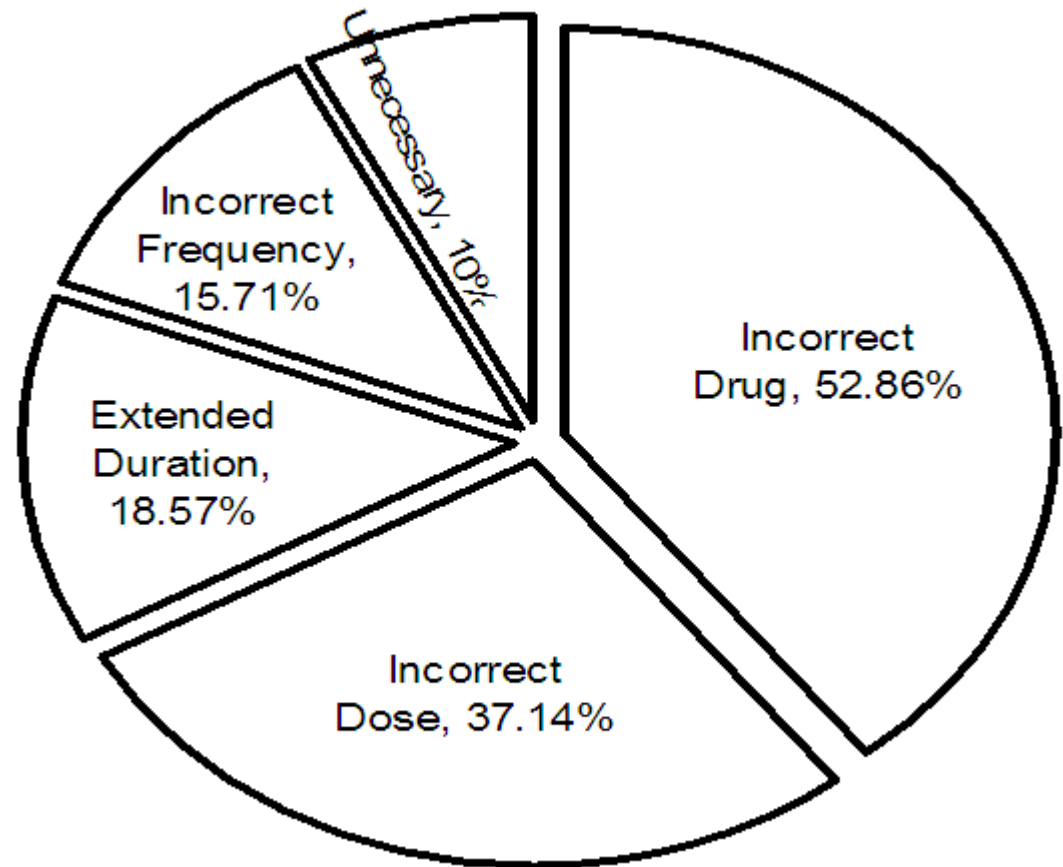
Amphia Hospital,  
Netherlands,  
Willemsen et al.  
AAC 2007, March,  
864

# John Hunter Hospital point prevalence survey May 2010

Conducted over 5  
days by 4  
staff/students

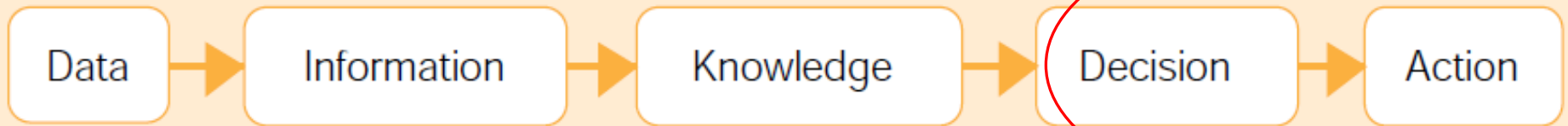
201/ 537 patients  
were receiving  
antibiotics

66% of courses  
were compliant  
with guidelines



# Interventions

*Data is the raw material from which information is constructed via processing or interpretation. This information in turn provides knowledge on which decisions and actions are based.*



*Does reducing antimicrobial use lead to less antimicrobial resistance?*

*Evidence from good studies says YES!*

Time series analysis demonstrating improved antimicrobial resistance patterns in *Pseudomonas* and other Enterobacteriaceae (Yong, JAC, 2010 )

# Core interventions to improve use

1. Surveillance of infections and antibiotic use
2. Administrative support and governance
3. Antimicrobial control team
4. Antimicrobial control (formulary) system
5. Antimicrobial prescribing guidelines
6. Role of the Clinical Microbiologist
7. Role of clinical pharmacists
8. Education of prescribers
9. Point-of-care interventions

**Antibiotic Policies: Theory and Practice Kluyser  
Academic 2005, Gould I**

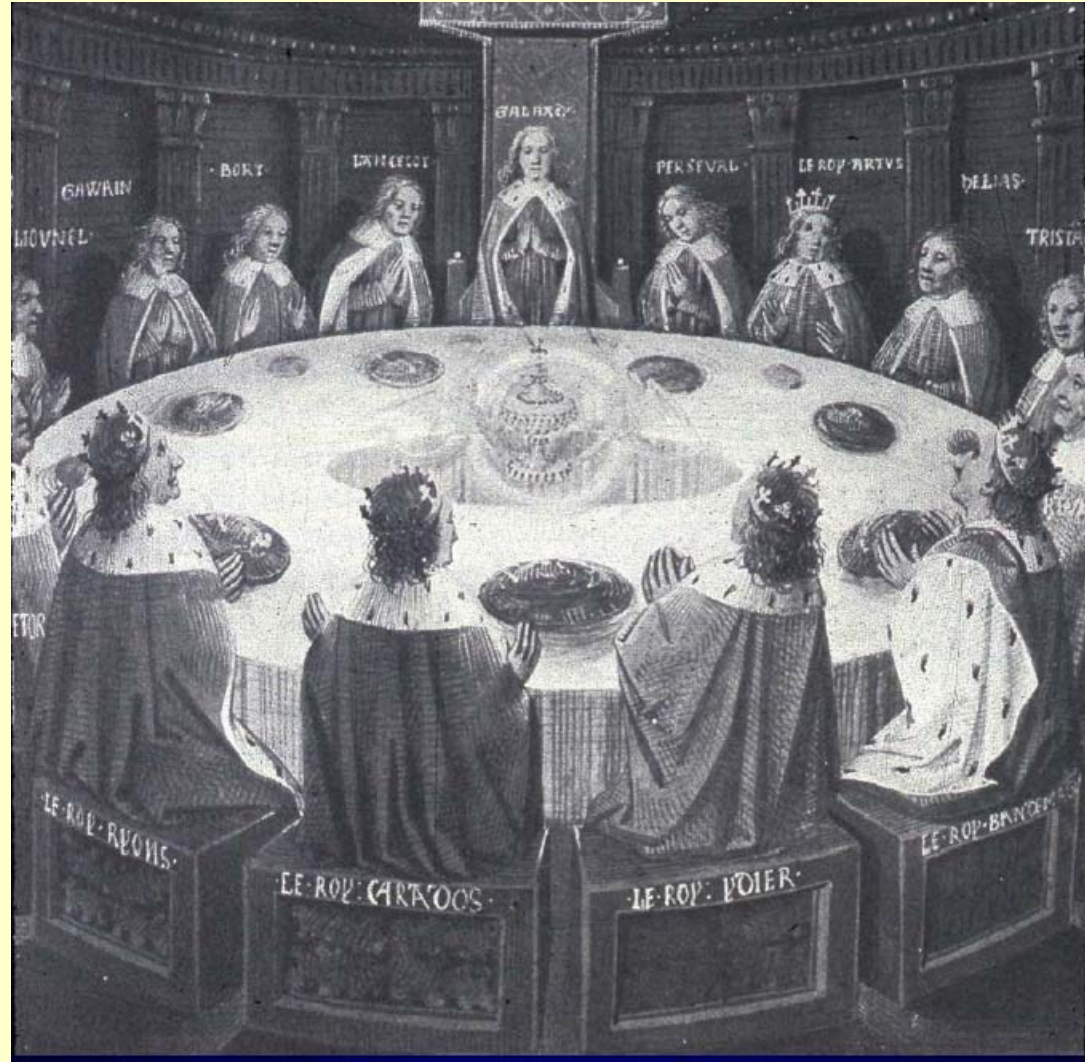


# Administration Support

- Must persuade leaders that improving antibiotic use improves patient outcomes and is cost-effective:
  - For example, John Hunter Hospital antibiotic control program saves >A\$350,000 (VD 8 billion) per year in drug costs alone
  - Must collect and present good data!
- Support required to:
  - Endorse an effective antimicrobial control plan
  - Establish and support the antimicrobial control team
- Ensure clear lines of accountability

# The Antimicrobial Control (‘Stewardship’) Team/Committee ...

- Infection specialist
- Microbiologist
- Pharmacist
- Physician
- Surgeon
- Trainee doctor





# Antimicrobial control committee: antimicrobial control plan

- **Establish an antibiotic formulary**
- Produce guidelines for antibiotic usage
- **Develop and implement educational programmes**
- Develop and implement other interventions
- **Monitor the efficacies of and compliance with the various interventions through audit**
- Undertake surveillance of antibiotic usage within each specialty, providing feedback of prescribers' own antibiotic practices in relation to those of peers or a standard
- **Undertake regular reviews of interventions**

# Formulary Controls

- A formulary is a restricted list of antimicrobials that prescribers can use within the hospital
  - Chosen after consideration of local infections and susceptibility patterns and other considerations
  - antibiotics that have potential for misuse, toxicity or likely to promote resistance are restricted
- Series of methods used to enforce the formulary controls

Are such controls possible in Vietnamese hospitals?

# Formulary controls: computerised approval and decision support

## Guidance DS

Help Help Logout Ferguson, John Guidance

### Confirm Approval

Your approval request has been successful. Press the 'Confirm' button if this is the approval you would like to acquire. Press the 'Cancel' button if this is not the approval you desire.

Drug:	Ceftriaxonè
Patient Ur:	0053871
Patient Name:	Campbell, Julius, BLECKMEN
Prescriber Name:	Ferguson, John
Authoriser Name:	System
Duration of Approval:	1 Day
Indications:	Severe community acquired pneumonia
Approval Expiry Date:	20 Oct 2010
Extension Scheduled:	Yes. This patient is likely to require prolonged therapy for this indication. Organise a consult for an extension of the approval.
	Cancel Confirm

art

1 / 12 53%

Community-Acquired Pneumonia (CAP) Guidelines for Adults and Children HNEH CPG 09\_06

L PRACTICE GUIDELINE HUNTER NEW ENGLAND NSW HEALTH

Community-Acquired Pneumonia (CAP) Guidelines for Adults and Children

Document Registration Number: HNEH CPG 09\_06

CPG applies Acute Networks Hospitals Primary & Community Networks

Target Audience This CPG is applicable to adults and children (all age groups other than neonates).

Central nervous system	Proven or suspected bacterial meningitis	3 days
Eye	All orbital (postseptal) or severe periorbital (preseptal) cellulitis	3 days
Gastrointestinal system	Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis	7 days
Genitourinary tract	Pelvic Inflammatory Disease - sexually acquired (use with metronidazole 500 mg IV 12 hourly and azithromycin 500 mg IV daily)	5 days
Prophylaxis	<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> prophylaxis (second line)	1 days
Respiratory system	Severe community acquired pneumonia (CORB $\geq$ 2 and presence of significant renal failure or minor penicillin allergy)	5 days
Sepsicaemia/		

- WELCOME
- App Restr
- Aztr
  - Cas
  - Cef
  - Cef
  - Cef
  - Cef
  - Cip
  - Clin
  - Col
  - Fos
  - Link
  - Lipx
  - Mei
  - Mo:
  - Pip
  - Posaco
  - Teicopl
  - Ticarcill
  - Tigecyc
  - Vancon
  - Voricon

# Laboratory



AGENT ANTIBACTERIEN

# The role of the clinical microbiologist

- Promote collection of correct patient microbiological specimens BEFORE antibiotics are started
- Contact the doctors about critical results – (eg. positive blood or CSF culture) to advise on treatment
- Report microbiology results to support better use:
  - Release only the relevant antibiotic susceptibility results
  - Provide comments about the significance of a culture result
  - Provide comments that give guidance about treatment
- Interact with clinical doctors on antibiotic control rounds

# The important role of the ward pharmacist

- Train pharmacists about guidelines and antibiotic control!
- Give pharmacists the authority to help implement the local antimicrobial control plan
- Pharmacist can organise interventions at the ward level with backup from infection specialist or microbiologist
  - Eg. Automatic stop orders for antibiotics
- Pharmacist does surveillance and checking of prescribing
- Participates in Antimicrobial Control Rounds

# Antimicrobial control rounds

- Overall aim- to ensure patients are receiving correct treatment for correct duration
- Infection specialist, clinical microbiologist, pharmacist and trainee specialist doctor
- Australia:
  - Intensive care rounds – daily or twice weekly
  - Hospital: Review patients receiving ‘restricted’ antibiotics
  - review of patients with proven bloodstream infection and ensure that they are getting correct antibiotic treatment
- Vietnam: initial hospital priorities
  - Intensive care units
  - Surgical patients



# Intensive care antibiotic control: practical steps

1. Feedback surveillance data to ICU specialists regularly; discuss the results, discuss local research on antibiotic resistance that might be useful
2. Build trust - Clinical Microbiologist/Infectious Diseases specialist visits ICU daily to provide /discuss new microbiology results
3. Start joint rounds between ICU, Infectious Diseases, Microbiology and Pharmacy
  - Review every patient who is on an antibiotic
  - intensive care specialist gives a case summary
  - microbiology results for patient are reviewed
  - antimicrobial plan for each patient agreed, documented and implemented
4. Review the impact of rounds and changes to antibiotic usage (research)



# Use local research to drive change: examples

- Antibiotic usage and resistance
  - time series studies of usage and resistance – identify which antibiotics are the main drivers of hospital resistance
- Microbiology:
  - Improved diagnosis of infection
- Surgical prophylaxis and wound infection:
  - Complete avoidance of cephalosporins (no rationale to use in Vietnam owing to very high ESBL carriage in community);
- Community acquired pneumonia:
  - return to narrow spectrum treatment (benzylpenicillin) for mild/moderate disease
- Ventilator associated pneumonia:
  - local studies of causes, diagnosis, treatment approaches

# Other key factors

- Pharmaceutical industry promotion amongst prescribers- needs control
- How do we change patient expectations – public campaigns in high income countries - some success
- Using effective educational strategies for implementing change

# Is antimicrobial control worth the trouble?

*Yes we can!*

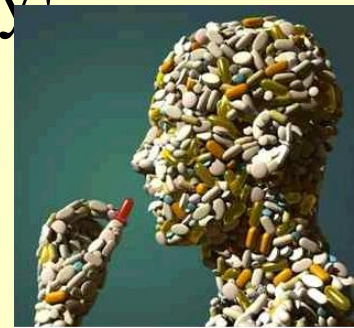
- *decrease multi-resistant infections by reducing antibiotic use!*
- Reduce costs
- Reduce patient side effects



# Summary



- Urgent need for effective antimicrobial control programs that reduce usage and reduce bacterial resistance
- The basis of such programs is surveillance and research of resistance, usage and prescribing behaviour
- Multi-faceted interventions are required to change behaviour of prescribers- study behavioural science!
- Evaluate the impact. Pay attention to significant barriers and change interventions if necessary!
- Publicize your success and the cost-benefits of your program!



# References

Web resource: [www.hicsiganz.org](http://www.hicsiganz.org)

**Antibiotic Policies: Theory and Practice** Kluyer Academic  
2005, Gould I

**Minimum Standards for Antibiotic Stewardship:** Ian  
Gould, Scotland Clinical Practice- available at HICSIG

**Infectious Diseases Society of America/SHEA: Guidelines  
for stewardship. Clinical Inf Diseases 2007 Dellit et al.**

*Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy* (2006) 57, 1189–1196

doi:10.1093/jac/dkl137

Advance Access publication 19 April 2006

JAC

**Antimicrobial prescribing policy and practice in Scotland:  
recommendations for good antimicrobial practice in acute hospitals**

Dilip Nathwani\* on behalf of Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) Short Life Working Group,  
The Scottish Executive Health Department Healthcare Associated Infection Task Force†

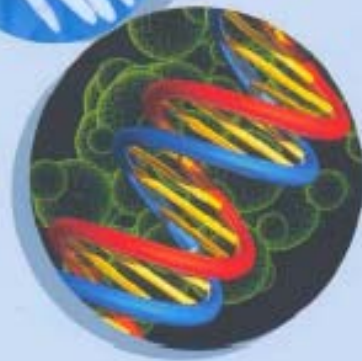
# ARPAC

Antibiotic  
Resistance  
Prevention  
And  
Control



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Community research



## How to make our hospitals a safer place

**Strategies for control  
and prevention  
of antibiotic resistance  
in European hospitals**

Conclusions of the ARPAC project, a European Commission DG Research-funded Concerted Action, contract number QLK2-CT-2001-00015. ARPAC is a collaborative effort undertaken by four ESCMID Study Groups.



SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME