



# Combating The Silent Threat: MSF battle against AMR

## **Middle East Medical Unit (MEMU)**

Anna Farra, MD

Mohamad Khalife, MD

Jinane Khraibani, MD

Fabiola Gordillo Gomez, MD

Dea Abi Hanna, Specialized nurse, OT, IPC



**MEDICAL  
INTERNATIONAL**



**HUMANITARIAN  
INDEPENDENT**



Photos: © Agnes Vazquez-Lopez, Assoc. Ladefoed/Burke, Laura Lorenz/Burke

# MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES

## MIDDLE EAST MEDICAL UNIT



**Anna Karin Farra**  
MEMU Coordinator



**Carine Naim**  
Antibiotic Resistance  
Analysis & Advocacy  
Advisor



**Krystel Moussally**  
MENA Epidemiologist



**Jinane Khraibani**  
Clinical mentor - AMR  
Learning Initiative



**Mohamad Khalife**  
Infectious Disease  
Antibiotics Resistance  
Referent



**Fabiola Gordillo Gomez**  
Microbiology Referent



**Dea Abi Hanna**  
Infection Prevention &  
Control Clinical Mentor



**Joanna Elias**  
MENA Health Promotion  
Regional Focal Point



**Pilar Garcia-Vello**  
Operational Research  
Advisor on Antibiotic  
Resistance



**Marjan Peeters**  
MIO Microbiology



**Adel el Khoury**  
MEMU Public Health  
Assistant



## CHALLENGES IN MSF SETTINGS













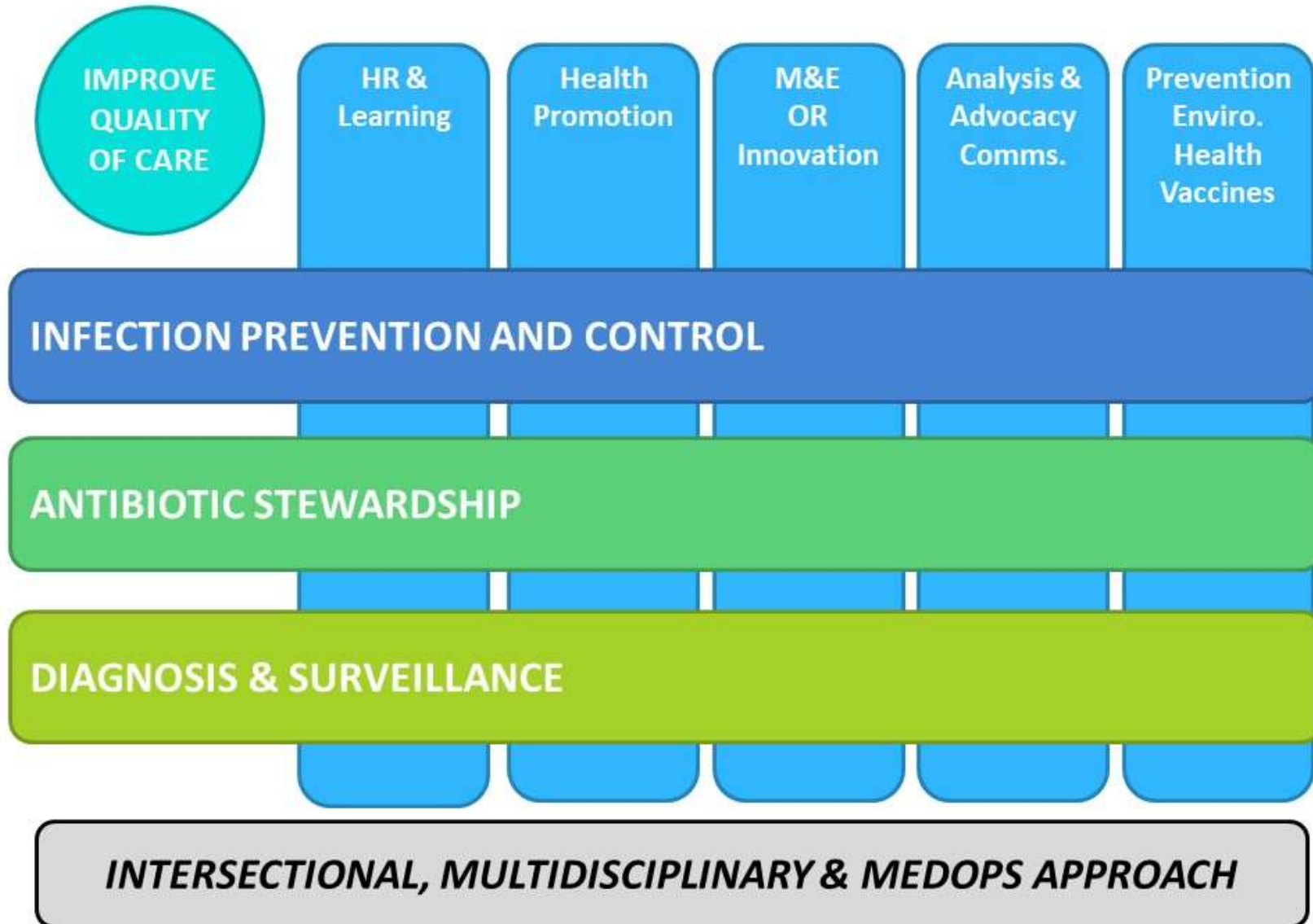




# HOW DOES MSF TACKLE THESE CHALLENGES?

**ACTIONS  
SAVE  
LIVES**

# Transversal axis



# The three pillars



## Microbiology

*Note: Microbiology cannot be improved without strong IPC & AS in place*



## Antibiotic Stewardship (AS)

### **BASIC PACKAGE**

All projects should include Antibiotic Stewardship and IPC components

## Infection, Prevention, & Control (IPC)

### **FULL PACKAGE**

Includes all components



# MSF AMR full package map



# AMS implementation

- AMS committee
- Action plan
- AMS focal points
- AMR referents
- Restrictive, persuasive stewardship strategies
- Prescription audits, consumption audits, quantitative and qualitative audits

# AMS implementation

- MSF guidelines specific to MSF settings (LMIC)
- Local guidelines/Adapted antibiotic guideline according to local antibiograms



# AMS implementation

- Advocacy
- Collaboration with MOH/Hand-over to MOH
- Primary health care, electronic Clinical Decision Support System (eCDSS: MSF E-care) for children (Kenya): up to 50% reduction in antibiotic prescription





# IPC strategic framework

## 3 pillars:

- 1- Hand Hygiene
- 2- cleaning and disinfection of the environment and reprocessing of reusable medical devices
- 3- transmission-based precautions

**Multimodal strategies: tailored to local context**

**Multidisciplinary approach:** medical, WaSH, logistics, human resources, and management staff.



# SIPCA (Stepwise IPC improvement approach)

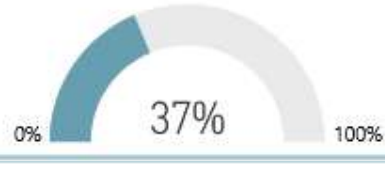
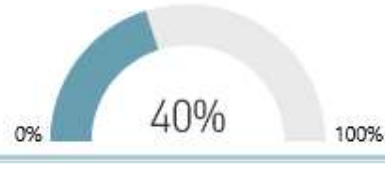
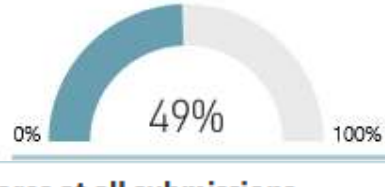
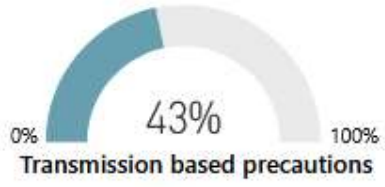
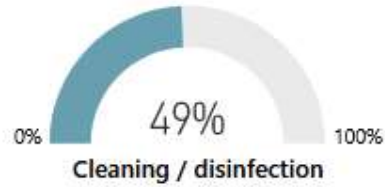
Scores at last submission  
Organisation aspect



Built environment



Ancillary services



IPC quality in selected project(s)

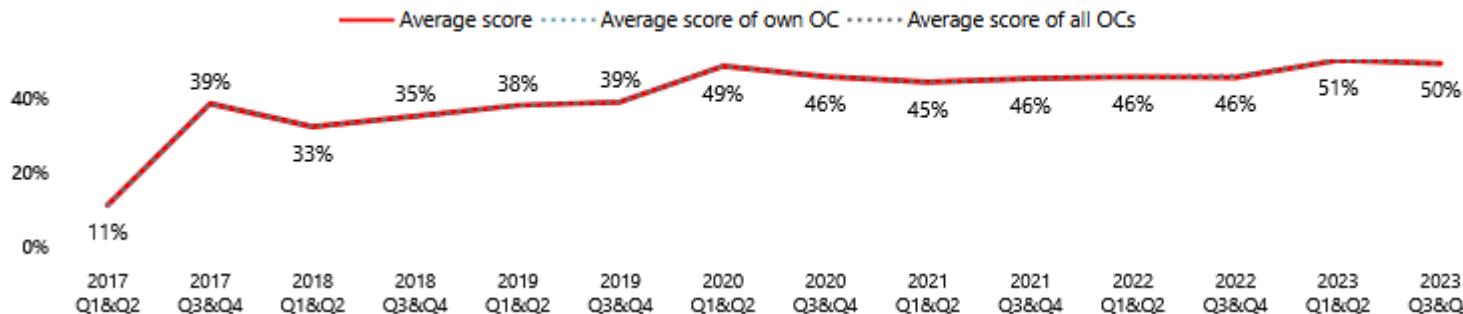
**Level 3**

● Average IPC score (%) | Target



**MSF's strategic framework focuses on these 9 categories**

Scores at all submissions



#Observations per half-year

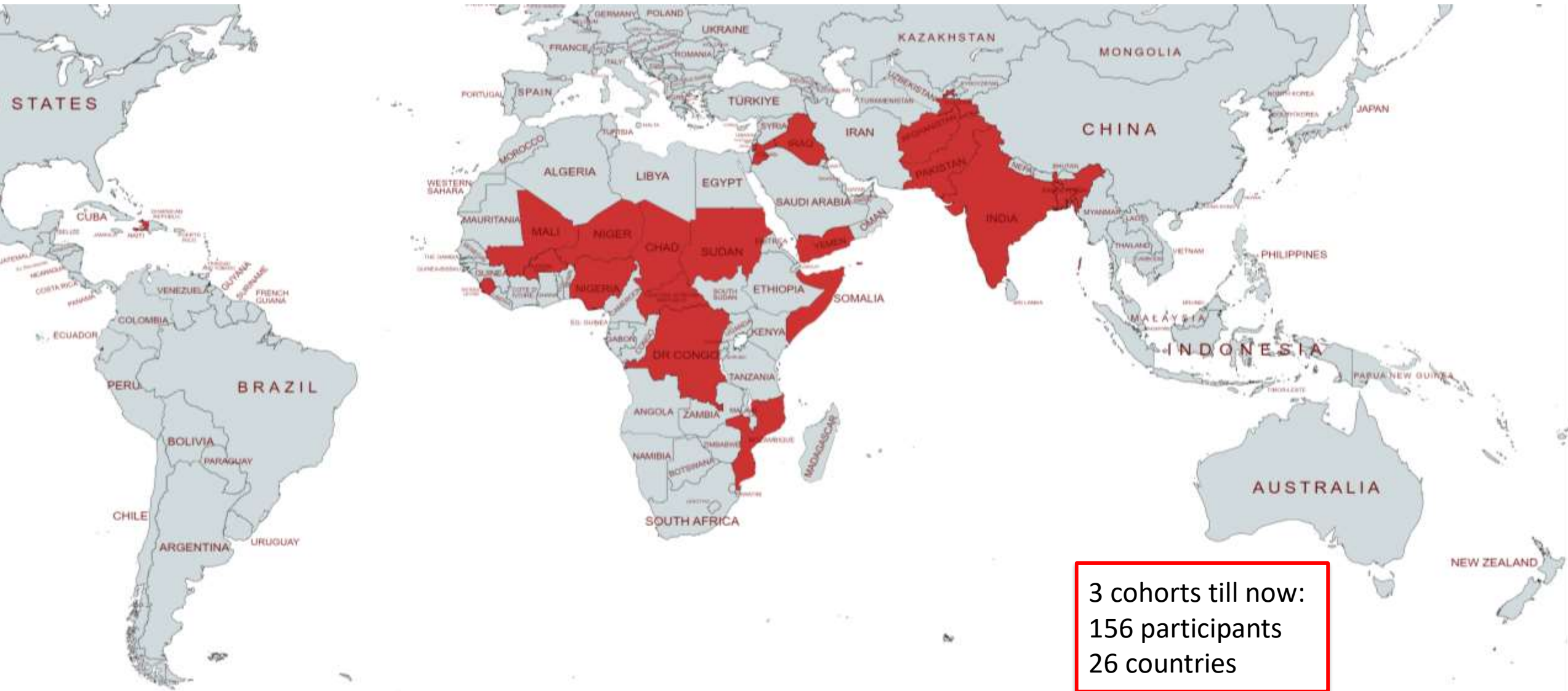
**606**



# Water And Sanitation



# MSF Academy (AMR learning initiative)



3 cohorts till now:  
156 participants  
26 countries

Epub 2021 Apr 28.


## AMR in low-resource settings: Médecins Sans Frontières bridges surveillance gaps by developing a turnkey solution, the Mini-Lab

Jean-Baptiste Ronat <sup>1</sup>, Alessandra Natale <sup>2</sup>, Thomas Kesteman <sup>3</sup>, Antoine Andremont <sup>4</sup>, Wael Elamin <sup>5</sup>, Liselotte Hardy <sup>6</sup>, Rupa Kanapathipillai <sup>7</sup>, Justine Michel <sup>2</sup>, Céline Langendorf <sup>8</sup>, Olivier Vandenberg <sup>9</sup>, Thierry Naas <sup>10</sup>, Felix Kouassi <sup>2</sup>

## Clinical bacteriology in low-resource settings: today's solutions

Sien Ombelet <sup>1</sup>, Jean-Baptiste Ronat <sup>2</sup>, Timothy Walsh <sup>3</sup>, Cedric P Yansouni <sup>4</sup>, Janneke Cox <sup>5</sup>, Erika Vlieghe <sup>6</sup>, Delphine Martiny <sup>7</sup>, Makeda Semret <sup>8</sup>, Olivier Vandenberg <sup>9</sup>, Jan Jacobs <sup>10</sup>; Bacteriology in Low Resource Settings working group

## Leaving no one behind: the need for a truly global response to antimicrobial resistance

Jacob Goldberg  • Kate Clezy • Dušan Jasovský • Angela Uyen-Cateriano

## Tuberculosis and antimicrobial resistance – new models of research and development needed

Grania Brigden <sup>1</sup>, José Luis Castro <sup>1</sup>, Lucica Ditiu <sup>2</sup>, Glenda Gray <sup>3</sup>, Debra Hanna <sup>4</sup>, Marcus Low <sup>5</sup>, Malebona Precious Matsoso <sup>6</sup>, Greg Perry <sup>7</sup>, Melvin Spigelman <sup>8</sup>, Souyma Swaminathan <sup>9</sup>, Els Torreale <sup>10</sup>, Sidney Wong <sup>11</sup>

## Antimicrobial resistance in West Africa: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Kerly J Bernabé <sup>1</sup>, Céline Langendorf <sup>2</sup>, Nathan Ford <sup>3</sup>, Jean-Baptiste Ronat <sup>4</sup>, Richard A Murphy <sup>5</sup>

## Antibiotic Resistance in Pacific Island Countries and Territories: A Systematic Scoping Review

Nicola D Foxlee <sup>1</sup>, Nicola Townell <sup>2</sup>, Lachlan McIver <sup>3</sup>, Colleen L Lau <sup>4</sup>

## Antimicrobial stewardship in primary health care programs in humanitarian settings: the time to act is now

[Claudia Truppa](#) , [Beatriz Alonso](#), [Kate Clezy](#), [Carole Deglise](#), [Carole Dromer](#), [Silvia Garelli](#), [Carolina Jimenez](#), [Rupa Kanapathipillai](#), [Mohamad Khalife](#) & [Ernestina Repetto](#)

*Antimicrobial Resistance & Infection Control* **12**, Article number: 89 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)



# Health Promotion

**KEEP A DISTANCE  
AVOID RESISTANCE**  
World Antibiotic Awareness Week - WAAW 2021

Failing to tackle the crisis of antibiotic resistance will cost an estimated **\$100 trillion by 2050**

Reference: WHO, 2017

**KEEP A DISTANCE  
AVOID RESISTANCE**  
World Antibiotic Awareness Week - WAAW 2021

and **NEVER**

- Self-medicate or share leftover antibiotics
- Save antibiotics for future use  
Next time when you fall sick, you're likely to have a different infection that requires different treatment
- Take antibiotics to prevent or treat an illness unless advised by a doctor

**Don't judge a Doctor by the number of pills they prescribe**  
Doctors know not to prescribe antibiotics unless they are really necessary

AMR WAAW Campaign 2021  
Communication Package / Branding

Fernal Arabic Slogan/Logo  
صحتك أولوية  
تناولها بمسؤولية  
2021 - الأسبوع العالمي للتوعية حول مضادات الميكروبات

Urdu Slogan/Logo  
ANTIBIOTIC  
مش دایماً بیحمیک  
2021 - اسبوع العالمی للتوعية حول مضادات المیکروبات

English Slogan/Logo  
**KEEP A DISTANCE  
AVOID RESISTANCE**  
World Antibiotic Awareness Week - WAAW 2021

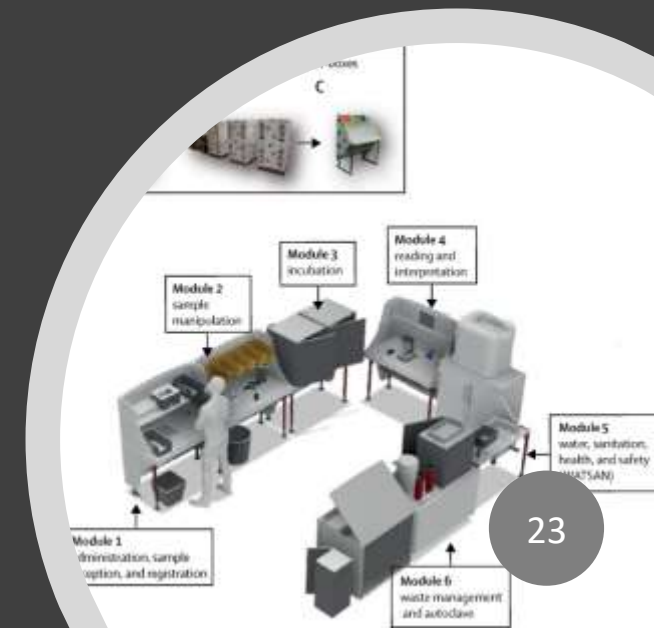
French Slogan/Logo  
**GARDEZ LA DISTANCE  
EVITEZ LA RESISTANCE**  
Le Soin est Médicament pour un Monde Sans Antibiopne

**ANTIBIOTIC**  
مش دایماً بیحمیک  
2021 - الأسبوع العالمي للتوعية حول مضادات الميكروبات





## Microbiology laboratories in MSF



# Antibiotic resistance and MSF experience: access to diagnostic

- Assessment of local bacteriology laboratories
- OR
- Implementation of MSF bacteriology laboratories

Lack of trained HR  
+++Microbiologists for interpretation

Today: all MSF labs are managed by MSF trained lab techs





# MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORY TEAMS





Clinician facing patient asks an AST



Patient's sample



Incubation & identification



Lab technician prepares antibiogram



Measures inhibition diameters and reads "raw results"



Microbiology expert interpret results **only when available**



Prescription for clinician





LA FONDATION

# Antibiogo

Smartphone based application, **Free, Offline and open source**, supports laboratory technicians to **read and interpret antibiograms**

1. Take picture
2. Image processing+ AI: semi automatic measurement of IZD
3. Application of Breakpoint and Expert rules
4. Identification of resistance mechanism
5. IPC alert in case of MDR
6. Results with comments to lab tech and clinicians
7. Extrapolation to Antibiotics not tested
8. Possibility of sending report for approval by external microbiologist

<https://youtu.be/Kvp7ofx-h4w>



## AST information

AST ID	Sample type
QA2-SAU-442	Tissue
Performed	Bacteria
20 October 2022	Staphylococcus aureus
Technician name	
MA	

## Patient information

ID	
442	
Name	
Age	Gender

ⓘ Methi Resistant Staphylococcus

## Antibiotics

### Susceptible, standard dosing regimen

A microorganism is categorised as "Susceptible, standard dosing regimen", when there is a high likelihood of therapeutic success using a standard dosing regimen of the agent.

- |                |                                   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ⓢ Clindamycin  | Ⓢ Norfloxacin                     |
| Ⓢ Erythromycin | Ⓢ Rifampicin                      |
| Ⓢ Fusidic Acid | Ⓢ Tobramycin                      |
| Ⓢ Gentamicin   | Ⓢ Trimethoprim + Sulfamethoxazole |

**Inferred:** Moxifloxacin, Netilmicin, Oleandomycin, Thiamphenicol

### Susceptible, increased exposure

A microorganism is categorised as "Susceptible, Increased exposure" when there is a high likelihood of therapeutic success because exposure to the agent is increased by adjusting the dosing regimen or by its concentration at the site of infection.

- ⓘ Ciprofloxacin

**Inferred:** Levofloxacin

## Resistant

A microorganism is categorised as Resistant when there is a high likelihood of therapeutic failure even when there is increased exposure.

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| R Cefoxitin       | R Tetracycline |
| R Penicillin G 1u |                |

**Inferred:** Amoxicillin + Clavulanic Ac. (cystitis), Amoxicillin + Clavulanic Ac. (MIC), Amoxicillin + Clavulanic Ac. Iv, Amoxicillin + Clavulanic Ac. Oral, Amoxicillin + Clavulanic.ac, Amoxicillin + Clavulanic.ac, Amoxicillin + Clavulanic.ac + Cloxa, Amoxicillin, Amoxicillin Iv, Amoxicillin Iv (meningitis), Amoxicillin Iv (non Meningitis), Amoxicillin (MIC), Amoxicillin Oral, Ampicillin (meningitis), Ampicillin (MIC), Ampicillin (non Meningitis), Ampicillin + Sulbactam, Ampicillin, Ampicillin, Azlocilline, Aztreonam, Carbenicillin, Cefacetrile, Cefaclor, Cefadroxil, Cefalexin, Cefaloridine, Cefalotin, Cefamandole, Cefapirin, Cefatrizine, Cefazolin (MIC), Cefazolin, Cefepime (meningitis), Cefepime (MIC), Cefepime (non Meningitis), Cefepime + Clavulanic.ac, Cefepime + Clavulanic.ac + Cloxacillin, Cefepime, Cefepime + Cloxacillin, Cefixime (MIC), Cefmenoxime, Cefoperazone, Cefotaxime (meningitis), Cefotaxime (MIC), Cefotaxime (non Meningitis), Cefotaxime + Clavulanic.ac, Cefotaxime + Clavulanic.ac + Cloxa, Cefotaxime + Clavulanic.ac, Cefotaxime + Clavulanic.ac + Cloxacillin, Cefotaxime, Cefotaxime + Cloxacillin, Cefotaxime, Cefotaxime + Cloxacillin, Cefotetan \*, Cefotiam, Cefotiam-hexetil, Cefpirome, Cefpirome (MIC), Cefpodoxime (MIC), Cefpodoxime, Cefradine, Cefsulodin \*, Ceftazidime + Avibactam 10-4 Mg, Ceftazidime + Clavulanic.ac, Ceftazidime + Clavulanic.ac + Cloxa, Ceftazidime + Clavulanic.ac, Ceftazidime + Clavulanic.ac + Cloxa, Ceftazidime + Clavulanic.ac + Cloxacillin, Ceftazidime, Ceftazidime + Cloxacillin, Ceftizoxime, Ceftolozane-tazobactam (pneumoniae), Ceftriaxone (meningitis), Ceftriaxone (MIC), Ceftriaxone (non Meningitis), Ceftriaxone, Cefuroxime (MIC), Cefuroxime Iv, Cefuroxime Oral (MIC), Cefuroxime Oral, Cloxacillin, Colistin (MIC), Colistin, Colistin, Dicloxacillin, Doripenem (MIC), Doripenem, Ertapenem (MIC), Ertapenem, Ertapenem + Cloxacillin, Flucloxacillin, Flumequine, Imipenem (MIC), Imipenem + Cloxacillin, Imipenem + Edta, Imipenem + Edta (MIC), Imipenem, Imipenem-relebactam, Loracarbef, Mecillinam, Meropenem (meningitis), Meropenem (MIC), Meropenem (non Meningitis), Meropenem + Cloxacillin, Meropenem, Meticillin, Mezlocillin, Moxalactam, Nafcillin\*, Nalidixic Acid, Oxacillin (MIC), Oxacillin, Oxacillin, Oxolinic Acid, Penicillin (meningitis), Penicillin (MIC), Penicillin (non Meningitis), Penicillin (str.pneumo), Penicillin V, Pipemidic Acid, Piperacillin + Tazobactam, Piperacillin, Piromidic Acid, Polymyxin B 300ui, Temocillin, Ticarcillin + Clavulanic.ac, Ticarcillin

## Notes

### Interpretation

- Methicillin resistance detected. isolates are considered resistant to all penicillins and most cephalosporins.
- For systemic infections, aminoglycosides should be used in combination with other active therapy.
- For systemic infections, aminoglycosides should be used in combination with other active therapy.



# Antibiogo

In addition to Diagnostic aid: support the lab tech and clinicians for an easy interpretation of results

For Lab tech

## Incompatibility of results

- Warning : drug profile corresponds to Micrococcus. Check identification.
- Warning : Ampicillin and Amoxicillin + Clavulanic acid results are not compatible. Please check results.

## Expected phenotype/intrinsic resistance

- Warning : This species is intrinsically resistant to CEFOXITIN. Please check the result of the antibiotic and the identification.

## Uncommon phenotype

- Penicillin-resistance has not been described for this organism. Confirm this resistance using another method. In case of confirmation send the strain to a reference laboratory.

## Testing recommendation

- Streptococcus pneumoniae susceptibility to B-lactams must be tested using Oxacillin 1µg disc (Oxa screening) or Penicillin G MIC
- Warning : Gentamicin I or R. Please test Gentamicin with high concentration (to determine level resistance).
- To use Ampicillin in meningitis you should determine the MIC.



# Antibiogo

## For clinicians

- ❑ Quinolone resistance NOT detected. In uncomplicated UTIs ciprofloxacin and levofloxacin can be considered susceptible.
- ❑ For systemic infections, aminoglycosides should be used in combination with other active therapy.
- ❑ Extended-spectrum beta-lactamase production detected. In isolates that test susceptible to amoxicillin-clavulanate and/or piperacillin-tazobactam, treatment with these agents should be avoided in serious infections (including isolates from blood cultures).
- ❑ No beta-lactam resistance detected. Isolate is considered to be susceptible to all beta-lactam agents.





## Diagnostic

- Antibioigo manages Internal quality control
- Antibiotic panel management
- Selective reporting



## Surveillance

- Interoperability
- %SIR analysis



## Capacity building

- Guidance for Inhibition zone measurements based on Eucast
- Main interpretation/ and OR resistance mechanism explained





Thank you

