DGDA
AMR BULLETIN

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Directorate General of Drug Administration
Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
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CONTENTS.

Major General Md. Shameem Haidar

Director General
Directorate General of Drug Administration

The escalating threat of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) continues to be one of the most pressing global public health challenges, and Bangladesh is no exception. As Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA), we recognize our critical role in safeguarding the quality, safety and effi-cacy of antimicrobial medicines. This bulletin serves as a vital platform to disseminate crucial in-formation, share progress, and reinforce our collective commitment to combating AMR across all sectors.

The implementation of the Drug and Cosmetics Act 2023 will continue to be a pivotal step in our fight against antibiotic misuse. By regulating the sale of antibiotics and enforcing strict penalties, we aim to control the spread of antimicrobial resistance and protect public health. Our recent en-forcement of the Drug and Cosmetics Act 2023 by court cases throughout the country has resulted in penalties for the unauthorized sale of antibiotics. This action underscores our commitment to en-suring that antibiotics are dispensed only with valid prescriptions, which is a crucial step in pre-venting misuse.

We have introduced "Red Labeling" on antibiotic packaging to enhance public and healthcare pro-fessional awareness regarding their judicious use. Furthermore, we are committed to enhancing antimicrobial use surveillance, actively contributing data to the WHO GLASS-AMC platform since 2019 to better understand national trends and inform policy decisions. We are also cautious about the misuse and overuse of antibiotics in veterinary practices, which may lead to AMR in hu-mans. DGDA has banned 34 antibiotics in veterinary practices that are critically important for human health.

Looking ahead, we will continue to strengthen our surveillance systems, expand our outreach pro-grams, and explore innovative solutions to ensure the rational use of antimicrobials. The insights gained from this bulletin will guide our future strategies, allowing us to adapt and respond effec-tively to the evolving landscape of AMR. I urge everyone from policymakers and healthcare pro-fessionals to pharmacists, farmers, and the general public to join hands with us in this vital mission to preserve the effectiveness of these life-saving antimicrobial medicines.

Mohammad Nayeem Golder

Director (cc)
Directorate General of Drug Administration

Legal enforcement is crucial for reducing the misuse of antibiotics. Establishing a surveillance system is vital for informed policy decisions. As the National Centre for AMC/AMU in Bangladesh, DGDA has established antimicrobial use (AMU) surveillance for human medicine and has reported to the WHO-GLASS platform since 2022.

Additionally, DGDA is working on establishing AMU surveillance for veterinary medicine. DGDA understands the significance of educating the public and healthcare providers in curbing AMR. In addition to legal enforcement, our AMR awareness campaigns have reached new heights. Following successful campaigns in Dhaka, Cox's Bazar, and Chattogram, we have extended our efforts to Narayanganj. Through interactive sessions at local schools, we are empowering students with knowledge about AMR and its dangers.

In collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO) -Bangladesh, DGDA has also launched a significant poster distribution initiative across 36 districts. These posters cover a wide range of essential health topics, promoting responsible healthcare practices and raising awareness about the dangers of antibiotic resistance. DGDA AMR Cell will continue to work tirelessly in this critical mission.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DRUG AND COSMETICS ACT-2023 FOR STOPPING OTC SELLING OF ANTIBIOTICS

Legislation is crucial for low and middle-income countries aiming to reduce self-medication with antibiotics. The Drug and Cosmetics Act-2023 was approved by Parliament in September 2023, and 4th March 2024 marks the first day of its implementation. This Act prohibits the sale of antibiotics without a prescription.

By regulating the distribution of antibiotics and promoting responsible use under medical supervision, the Act aims to curb antibiotic misuse. The implementation of this Act on 4th March 2024 marks a milestone in the effort to control antibiotic misuse. By enforcing strict regulations on the sale of antibiotics, authorities can mitigate the emergence of antibiotic resistant bacteria.

In 53 districts, 571 cases were filed against pharmacies that sold antibiotics without prescriptions, resulting in fines totaling 2235600 TK from March 2024 to March 2025 by mobile courts. Overall, the combination of legislative measures, such as the Drug and Cosmetics Act-2023, and proactive enforcement actions like mobile courts, are essential strategy for promoting responsible antibiotic use and safeguarding public health in Bangladesh.

Implementing the Drug and Cosmetics Act-2023 for antibiotics

DGDA AWARENESS INITIATIVES

AMR AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS AMONG DRUG SELLERS AND BANGLADESH CHEMIST & DRUGGIST SAMITY (BCDS)

Implementing the Drug and Cosmetics Act-2023 for antibiotics

Legal enforcement is crucial for reducing the misuse of antibiotics, while awareness campaigns among drug sellers and BCDS are equally important. From January to July 2024, 119 awareness programs were conducted in 32 districts. During these campaigns, Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) officials informed drug sellers about the new Drug and Cosmetics Act-2023. They suggested maintaining a register to keep records of the purchasing and selling of antibiotics, as well as preserving prescriptions.

ADDRESSING AMR THROUGH EDUCATION

Link:https://www.who.int/about/accountability/results/who-results-report-2022-2023/country-story/2023/empoweringbangladesh-s-next-generation--confronting-antimicrobial-resistance-through-education-and-awareness

In Bangladesh, the lack of awareness about Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) remains a pressing concern. Despite the growing global threat of drug-resistant infections, there is limited understanding among the general population and healthcare practitioners about the responsible use of antibiotics. Overuse and misuse of antibiotics are common, leading to the development of antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria.[1] The absence of comprehensive public health campaigns and educational initiatives perpetuates this issue, putting the effectiveness of vital antimicrobials at risk.[2] Recognizing the critical need for education on AMR, the World Health Organization (WHO) spearheaded a campaign targeting secondary school stunts—a demographic unfamiliar with AMR due to its absence in their curriculum. Pre- and post-campaign surveys revealed a gap in AMR understanding that was effectively addressed by the campaign, vastly improving students' knowledge. A pivotal roundtable with policymakers in October 2023, facilitated by WHO and organized by the Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA), resulted in a commitment from the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) and Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) to address this crucial issue. Following a proposal from DGDA on 13 December 2023, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) officially requested NCTB to integrate AMR topics into the secondary educational curriculum—an impactful milestone for Bangladesh. This activity will facilitate a major activity of the "National Strategy and Action Plan for Antimicrobial Resistance Containment in Bangladesh [2023-2028]" and also aligns well with activities mentioned in the global AMR action plan.

KEY WHO CONTRIBUTIONS

- Collaborated with Quadripartite Secretariat for One Health to organize a global consultation on AMR awareness.

- Conducted several educational campaigns to close knowledge gaps among children, teachers, pharmacy retailers, and healthcare providers, in partnership with the government.
- Developed the AWaRe classification for antibiotics to support stewardship efforts globally.
- Documented WHO's AMR activities with the National Regulatory Authority for Drugs (DGDA) in quarterly bulletins, reaching medical students and practitioners.
- Provided technical support for informative presentations, distribution of awareness materials, and engaging storytelling to convey AMR severity to secondary school children.
- Contributed to creating appealing AMR advocacy materials for children, including "Tinu-Minu and Superbug" comic book, "Invention of Penicillin" coloring book, comic posters, animation of "Tinu-Minu and Superbug," and WHO-AWaRe Poster.
- Advocated for AMR inclusion in school curriculum to high-ranking policymakers.

HOW DID BANGLADESH, WITH THE SUPPORT OF WHO, ACHIEVE THIS?

In 2022, the quadripartite agencies - comprising the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), WHO, and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly known as OIE) - organized two consecutive global consultation meetings to engage stakeholders in discussions on the pressing issue of AMR. During the consultations, participants emphasized the importance of targeting children, students, and youth as the primary audience for AMR awareness initiatives.[3] Recognizing the urgency to raise awareness about AMR, WHO Bangladesh then collaborated with the government to initiate and conduct an educational campaign to bridge the knowledge gap in children, pharmacy retailers, and healthcare providers.

"When shall we start the practice of asking at least one question related to antimicrobial resistance in all public examinations in Bangladesh? Shall it be next year, this year, tomorrow, or today? Let us unite and declare with one voice: The time is now!" -Professor Dr Md. Sayedur Rahman, Chairman, Department of Pharmacology, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University In 2017, the WHO Expert Committee on Selection and Use of Essential Medicines introduced the AWaRe classification of antibiotics to strengthen antibiotic stewardship efforts.[4]

This classification categorizes antibiotics into three groups that guides their use, considering their impact on antimicrobial resistance and emphasizing the importance of judicious antibiotic use at the local, national, and global levels. WHO Bangladesh facilitated the dissemination of the AWaRe classification to medical students and practitioners through the National Regulatory Authority for Drugs (DGDA), by developing and disseminating WHO AWaRe posters. Additionally, DGDA, with WHO's technical support, created a comic book titled "Tinu-Minu and Superbug" which played a crucial role in raising AMR awareness among school children. [5]

Despite initial challenges from parents and teachers questioning their involvement, the AMR awareness campaign successfully engaged school children, nurturing a future generation equipped to address this global health threat and empowering them to promote proper antibiotic use within their families and communities.

"Let us handle medicine with care and build a healthy life together." -Character Minu and family from AMR Animation "Tinu Minu and Super Bug".

During World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) 2022, DGDA organized an art competition at Cox's Bazar Model High School centered on the theme of "AMR." The event featured presentations and storytelling sessions, sparking quick enthusiasm among the children who swiftly grasped the intricacies of AMR and produced impressive artwork reflecting their understanding. Notably, they expressed awareness of the detrimental effects of self-medication with antibiotics. This engagement underscored the effectiveness of involving children in the awareness campaign. Recognizing the necessity for behavioral change regarding antibiotic self-medication, it was evident that addressing such practices should commence at the school level, emphasizing the importance of integrating AMR topics into the curriculum.

With technical and financial backing from WHO, DGDA developed animations, comic posters, and a coloring book titled "Invention of Penicillin." To evaluate the impact of these resources, DGDA conducted a pre-and-post survey among 199 school students at Chattogram Cantonment Public College. The survey initially revealed a lack of awareness, with students displaying little understanding of AMR and responsible antimicrobial use. However, following the campaign, the post-test revealed a significant improvement in students' knowledge level. Around 84% of students answered the questions correctly during the post-survey compared to just 33% answering them correctly in the pre-survey. The questions were focusing on antibiotic use, misuse, and antimicrobial resistance, particularly highlighting children's awareness of these issues and the effectiveness of interventions in promoting informed perspectives. This significant improvement in understanding indicates the potential for integrating AMR topics into the curriculum to positively influence both knowledge and behavior.

The findings of this survey and associated activities were presented at a roundtable meeting, a collaborative effort between WHO and DGDA, involving key policymakers. Held on October 29, 2023, the meeting aimed to spur the integration of AMR education into secondary school curricula. Attended by representatives from diverse health and education institutions, including the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Education, academicians, AMR experts, and development partners, the discussion underscored the pressing need to educate school-going children about AMR. A comprehensive approach was proposed, with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare urging the Ministry of Education to include AMR topics in secondary education textbooks. Experts emphasized the global imperative to raise awareness about AMR and commended WHO's initiatives. Subsequently, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare officially requested the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) to integrate AMR issues into the secondary educational curriculum, signalling a commendable step towards implementation. The presence of high-ranking policymakers garnered increased media coverage, including a full-page feature in the popular national newspaper "Daily Samakal." [6]

An AMR audiovisual animation, jointly produced by WHO and DGDA, was broadcasted during World AMR Awareness Week in November 2023 on three national channels in Bangladesh, accompanied by a children's theme song. Work is currently underway on a second comic book. Awareness materials, including poster versions of the comic books, a colouring book on antibiotics for children, AMR quarterly bulletins, and posters for communications are available on an official governmental website. [7]

Integrating AMR into school curricula represents a strategic, long-term approach to empower students as advocates within their communities, cultivating a generation knowledgeable and conscientious about antimicrobial use. This educational initiative is expected to equip future generations with the understanding to responsibly use antimicrobial medications, mitigating risks associated with misuse, overuse, and self-medication.

While involving children is crucial in shaping future attitudes and behaviours, sustaining the campaign is essential to reinforce these messages and ensure long-term impact. Additionally, political leadership is vital in driving policy changes, allocating resources, and implementing initiatives to comprehensively address AMR. The school campaign's lessons emphasize the importance of continued investment in education and awareness programs. By maintaining momentum through sustained campaigns, safeguarding public health, and mitigating the threat of antimicrobial resistance for generations to come becomes achievable.

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AMR SCHOOL-LEVEL AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS CONDUCTED IN NARAYANGANJ

AMR school campaign at Morgan Girls' High School & College, Narayanganj

Since 2022, DGDA has been at the forefront of spreading awareness about antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Their efforts aim to enlighten both children and their parents about the critical issue of AMR. After successfully conducting campaigns in Dhaka, Cox's Bazar, and Chattogram, their focus was shifted to Narayanganj, where they strive to empower young students with knowledge about AMR.

In continuation of this effort, impactful programs were held at Morgan Girls' High School & College and Narayanganj Govt. Girls' High School, targeting students from classes VIII to X.

Throughout these school-level AMR awareness sessions, students were immersed in learning about AMR and its detrimental effects, primarily through the captivating audio-visual animation "Tinu Minu and Superbug." In addition to the informative sessions, DGDA Narayanganj also distributed engaging WHO Bangladesh and Sweden Embassy supported AMR Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials such as comic books, coloring books, and posters. During interactive quiz sessions, students were rewarded with posters for providing correct answers, further reinforcing their understanding of AMR and its implications.

AMR school campaign at Narayanganj Govt. Girls' High School

AMR CHILDREN'S BOOKS OF DGDA FEATURED AT EKUSHEY BOOK FAIR 2024

On the occasion of International Mother Language Day, 21st February, 2024, 1000 copies of Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Comic Book and Antibiotic Coloring Book were distributed to children for free at the Ekushey Book Fair in Narayanganj under the initiative of District Office, DGDA Narayanganj. Dhaka Divisional Commissioner and Narayanganj District Commissioner visited the stall of District Office DGDA, Narayanganj, commended the initiative, and called for the books to be distributed in schools all over Bangladesh.

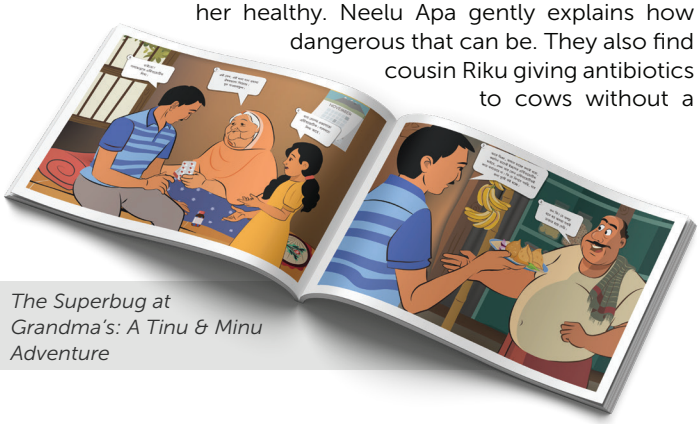
The enthusiastic response from children emphasized the importance of making AMR awareness accessible and engaging. It highlighted the effectiveness of using relatable educational resources, like the comic book and coloring book, to instill understanding and prompt action against AMR from an early age.

Ekushey Book Fair 2024, Narayanganj

DGDA'S NEW AMR CHILDREN'S COMIC BOOK PUBLISHED

DGDA began raising awareness among school-going children in 2022 and developed various educational materials such as comic books, coloring books, and animations. As part of continuing this effort, DGDA has published a new comic book titled 'The Superbug at Grandma's: A Tinu & Minu Adventure'.

In this comic book story, Tinu and Minu visit their grandma's house after exams, excited for family time. But they soon learn Grandma's been taking antibiotics on her own, thinking it keeps her healthy. Neelu Apa gently explains how dangerous that can be. They also find cousin Riku giving antibiotics to cows without a



The Superbug at Grandma's: A Tinu & Minu Adventure

vet's advice. When Grandma falls sick, doctors reveal her body no longer responds to regular antibiotics. The whole family realizes how serious this is. Even the local pharmacy gets in trouble for selling antibiotics without prescriptions. Thankfully, Grandma gets better—and promises to use medicine the right way from now on. This comic book was printed with financial support from WHO-Bangladesh and distributed across all 64 districts of Bangladesh among school-going children.

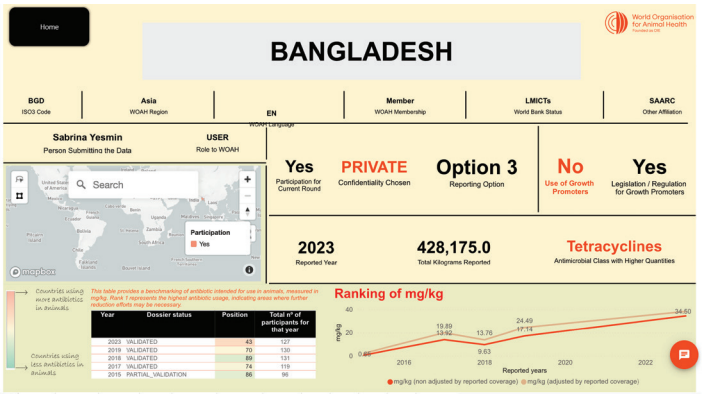
POSTER DISTRIBUTION BY DGDA IN 36 DISTRICTS

DGDA , in collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO) Bangladesh and the Embassy of Sweden, has launched a significant initiative to enhance public health awareness throughout Bangladesh. This initiative involves the creation and distribution of a series of impactful posters designed to educate individuals on various health-related topics.

These posters cover a wide range of essential health issues, including proper medication usage, the dangers of antibiotic resistance, the importance of vaccinations, and other key messages aimed at promoting responsible healthcare practices. Each poster is carefully crafted to convey its message clearly and effectively, ensuring that vital health information is accessible to people across different regions and backgrounds.

To ensure maximum reach and impact, DGDA has taken a comprehensive approach by distributing these posters through its district offices located in 36 districts of Bangladesh. This strategy enables the dissemination of health information to both urban and rural communities, reaching individuals who may have limited access to healthcare services.

ANTIMICROBIAL USE (AMU) SURVEILLANCE FOR VETERINARY MEDICINE IN BANGLADESH



The emergence of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a growing human and animal health concern around the world. Irrational and inappropriate use of antibiotics in animals can accelerate AMR process in humans and animals. The use of antibiotics in animals for both therapeutic and non-therapeutic purposes is a major driver of the emergence and spread of AMR. The frequent use of these antibiotics in veterinary practices may lead to residue and create some potential problems not only in livestock but also in public health issues. The presence of residues of antibiotics in animal-derived foodstuffs may induce carcinogenic and mutagenic effects and lead to the condition of allergic reaction, and the development of antibiotic resistance in human gut bacteria. So, this is important to conduct antimicrobial use (AMU) surveillance for veterinary medicine and to gain insight into its public health significance in Bangladesh.

As the national regulatory authority for drugs (both human and veterinary), Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) has initiated AMU surveillance for veterinary medicines in Bangladesh. The year 2024 marked the first time this surveillance was conducted (data was collected for the year 2023) and reported to the WOAH ANIMUSE platform.

ANTIMICROBIAL USE (AMU) SURVEILLANCE FOR HUMAN MEDICINE IN BANGLADESH

As the National Centre for Antimicrobial Use (AMU) Surveillance in Bangladesh, DGDA began reporting to the WHO-GLASS platform in 2022. In 2024, the AMR Cell of DGDA continued this surveillance system and submitted data for the year 2023. The usage trend showed an increase in antimicrobial medicines during the COVID-19 pandemic period (2020 to 2022), followed by a decrease in 2023.

Antibiotics in the 'Watch' category were the most consumed from 2016 to 2023. With financial and technical support from WHO-Bangladesh, DGDA continues to operate this surveillance system.

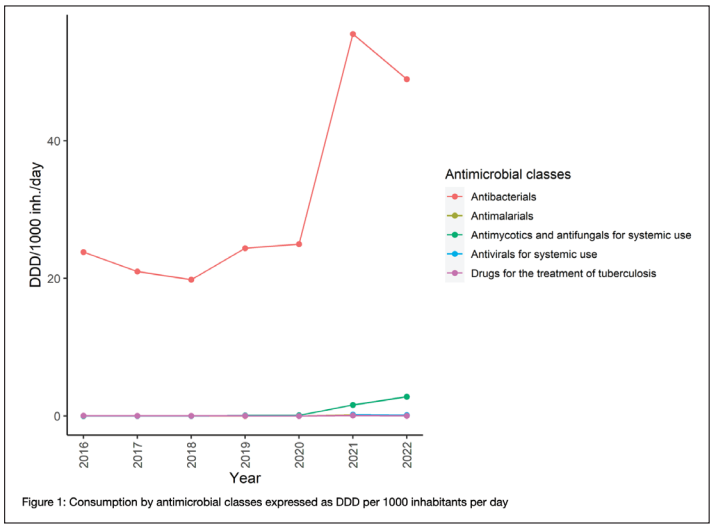


Figure 1: Consumption by antimicrobial classes expressed as DDD per 1000 inhabitants per day

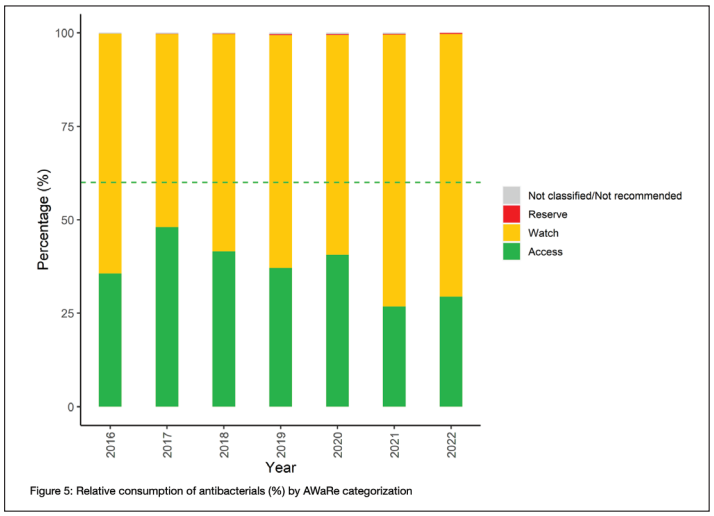


Figure 5: Relative consumption of antibacterials (%) by AWaRe categorization

COLLABORATION BETWEEN DVFA AND DGDA

Meeting among DVFA, Local Veterinary Medicine Manufacturers, AHCAB & DGDA on Use of Veterinary Antimicrobials and Antimicrobial Resistance

The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration (DVFA) is supporting DGDA in strengthening its workforce, conducting effective AMU surveillance, and developing necessary guidelines. A consultative meeting was held on April 8 and 9, 2025, followed by a collaborative meeting on April 10 with private sector stakeholders, including veterinary medicine producers and importers. These events were jointly hosted by DGDA and DVFA. The goal was to raise awareness about the importance of collecting AMU data and to discuss ways to improve the process of gathering sales and import data from companies.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT TO COMBAT AMR

DANIDA FELLOWSHIP

As part of the Sector Cooperation Project between Bangladesh and Denmark, Mr. Md. Iqbal Hossain, Deputy Director, DGDA participated in a fellowship program on "One Health" from 03 March to 04 April 2025; 04 (four) DGDA officials Mr. A T M Golam Kibria Khan, Assistant Director; Ms. Shaila Nowshad, Assistant Director, and Mr. Romel Mullick, Superintendent of Drugs participated in a fellowship program on "Policy Development and Implementation of Interventions to Control Antimicrobial Resistance" from 10 June to 28 June 2024 and Mr. Md. Aziullah was participated in 2023, organized by the University of Copenhagen's Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences and funded by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Denmark. The participants gained in-depth knowledge about setting priorities and developing evidence-based, context-specific, and cost-effective solutions to tackle AMR in humans, livestock, and

DANIDA Fellowship Awarded

the environment in low or middle-income countries like Bangladesh. They also learned about the drivers and transmission of antimicrobial use and resistance in a One Health approach, which includes developing and evaluating national action plans (NAPs) and considering the importance of policy, economic, and behavioral aspects when defining and implementing effective solutions to tackle AMR.

FLEMING FUND FELLOWSHIP 2024

Mr. Md. Shariful Islam, Superintendent of Drugs at the Directorate General of Drug Administration, has been selected for the AMR Policy Fellowship – One Health (BD61) from Bangladesh.

The Fellowship is funded by the Fleming Fund, a part of the UK Department of Health and Social Care's aid programme. The Fleming Fund supports efforts to combat AMR in low- and middle-income countries. Through this Fellowship, support will be provided for AMR policy development in Bangladesh using the One Health approach.

ADVANCED LEVEL AMR DATA ANALYSIS AND CLINICAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Implementing the Drug and Cosmetics Act-2023 for antibiotics

A three-day Advanced Level AMR Data Analysis and Clinical Leadership Training was held in February 2025 at the Grand Intercontinental Hotel in Seoul. The event was supported by the Fleming Fund through the CAPTURA and TACE projects.
It brought together around 60 participants from over 15 countries and more than 20 speakers, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange in the fight against AMR. Mr. Mahabub Hossain from AMR Cell of DGDA participated in this training program. The event highlighted the power of collaboration, innovation, and data-driven decision-making in addressing AMR.

CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP OF `TASK FORCE TO MONITOR ANTIMICROBIAL CONSUMPTION/ USE IN BANGLADESH'

Consultative workshop of "Task force to monitor Antimicrobial consumption/Use in Bangladesh" at DGDA

DGDA, with the technical and financial assistance from WHO, organized Taskforce meeting to monitor Antimicrobial Consumption/Use in Bangladesh on 21 October 2024.
At the meeting's kickoff, Mr. Mohammad Nayeem Golder, Director (cc) and Head of DGDA AMR Cell, welcomed participants and outlined the agenda, urging members to share their expert insights. The formal proceedings, moderated by Ms Umme Habiba, Programme Officer-AMR, WHO Bangladesh, included three key presentations. Dr. Nandita presented the National Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Surveillance Report (2016-2023), emphasizing trends in resistance by year and region on behalf of IEDCR. Dr Aninda Rahman, NPO, WHO, presented on the Antimicrobial Use (AMU) surveillance report 2016 to 2022, highlighting policy implications. Assistant Director of DGDA, Mr. Mahbub Hossain, introduced the draft National Guideline on Dispensing, Use, and Disposal Management of Antimicrobial Drugs.

Decisions are taken:

1. Presentation on AMC/AMU and AMR surveillance for the year 2024, along with related policy recommendations, will be delivered at the next Taskforce meeting.
2. The draft "National Guideline on Dispensing, Use, and Disposal Management of Antimicrobial Drugs – Bangladesh" has been approved with suggestions from the Taskforce. The final version of the guideline will be shared with Taskforce members via email.
3. "Policy Brief on the Consumption and Resistance Patterns of Antimicrobial Drugs in Bangladesh" will be conducted.

Finally, the outgoing and incoming Director Generals, Major General Quazi Md. Rashid-un-Nabi and Major General Md. Shameem Haidar, respectively, instructed follow-up actions based on expert feedback, concluding the meeting with gratitude to attendees.

DGDA CELEBRATED FUNGAL DISEASE AWARENESS WEEK

DGDA, in collaboration with WHO Bangladesh, hosted a seminar on "Fungal Infection and Antifungal Resistance" to mark Fungal Disease Awareness Week on 18 September 2024.
The seminar began with a welcome speech by Director General, DGDA emphasizing the global burden of fungal infections, which affect over one billion individuals annually. He highlighted that those with weakened immune systems are particularly vulnerable and stressed the need for enhanced awareness and intervention strategies.
Key achievements of the awareness campaign, jointly led by DGDA and WHO Bangladesh,were presented. These included the development and distribution of fungal infection awareness posters across 36 districts, 8 divisions, and 60 Rohingya camps, with additional dissemination through DGDA's website.
Technical sessions featured expert presentations, Like, Dr Aninda Rahman, NPO-AMR, WHO Bangladesh, detailed global and national trends in fungal infections and antifungal resistance. Dr. Ariful Basher, Consultant, Infectious Diseases Hospital, focused on clinical challenges and treatment strategies for fungal infections and Dr. Zakir Hossain Ghalib, Sir Salimullah Medical College, discussed dermatological impacts and resistance management.
Mr. Mohammad Naeem Goldar, Director (cc) and Head of AMR Cell, DGDA, emphasized the importance of a collaborative approach to combat antifungal resistance and improve treatment protocols. The seminar concluded with an open discussion, where participants shared insights and recommendations for enhancing awareness and integrating antifungal resistance strategies into healthcare policies. In closing remarks, Mr Ashraf Hossain, Director-Admin, DGDA, underscored the value of collective action. The seminar reinforced the importance of addressing fungal infections and antifungal resistance through coordinated efforts and informed policymaking.

Seminar on fungal infection and anti-fungal resistance on the occasion of Fungal Disease Awareness Week

World AMR Awareness Week 2024

DGDA CELEBRATED WORLD AMR AWARENESS WEEK 2024

DGDA celebrated World AMR Awareness Week on 20 November, 2024 in an event organized by DGDA and supported by Fleming Fund Bangladesh Country Grant. The theme for World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW) 2024 was "Educate. Advocate. Act now."

Representatives from DGHS, CDC, IEDCR, DLS, BLRI, Department of Fisheries, WHO, WOAH, and Fleming Fund were present. Various AMR awareness activities were conducted, including poster distribution, a rally, presentations on AMR and AMU surveillance, and discussions on AMR policy interventions.

In collaboration with WHO, the Fleming Fund, USP-PQM, and BHB, DGDA also launched a significant poster distribution campaign across 36 districts. These posters address a wide range of essential health topics, promoting responsible healthcare practices and raising awareness about the dangers of antibiotic resistance.

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Preventing Antimicrobial Resistance Together