

**CombatAMR**

**CombatAMR.org** is a **Call to Action** – and each one of us has an important role to play. To meet the challenges of this serious health threat will require co-operation and re-education of the general public to change both behaviour and expectations in antibiotic customs. **We ... the people**, need to campaign for robust global policy development, support the formation of active partnerships at all levels and press for substantial funding of a co-ordinated global programme dedicated to searching for new antibiotics and developing alternative therapies. *Please share our website.*

**70 years ago 9 out of 10 people who contracted pneumonia died. After penicillin was discovered by Alexander Fleming in 1928 and made widely available in the 1940s, only 1 out of 10 people died.**

## GLOSSARY



Some of medical words and names used can be confusing so **CombatAMR.org** present a glossary of the acronyms and definitions of some of the terms commonly used in antimicrobial resistance, research and explanations of the words and acronyms that are often used. It is not a complete list of all the words you might come across but we hope you find the listing helpful.

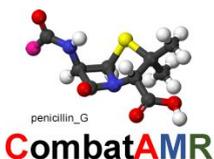
<b>ABU</b>	Antibiotic use
<b>ADR</b>	Adverse Drug Reaction (also known as AR)
<b>Adverse event</b>	An unfavourable outcome that occurs during or after the use of a drug or other intervention, but is not necessarily caused by it.
<b>AMC</b>	Antimicrobial consumption.
<b>AMP</b>	Naturally occurring antimicrobial peptides form an integral part of organism's host defence system.
<b>AMRHAI</b>	Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infections.
<b>AmpC</b>	AmpC beta-lactamases are enzymes which convey resistance to penicillins, second and third generation cephalosporins and cephamycins. They also result in resistance to combinations of these antibiotics and substances which are actually intended to inhibit the effect of beta-lactamases.
<b>AMR</b>	Antimicrobial resistance is the ability of a microorganism (like bacteria, viruses, and some parasites) to stop an antimicrobial (such as antibiotics, antivirals and antimalarials) from working against it.
<b>AMS</b>	Antimicrobial Stewardship
<b>AMU</b>	Antimicrobial Use
<b>Antibiotic</b>	Substance produced by or obtained from certain bacteria or fungi that can be used to kill or inhibit the growth of disease-causing microorganisms.
<b>Antibodies</b>	Defensive protein produced by an organism in response to the presence of foreign or invading substances such as proteins found on viruses or bacteria.
<b>APAM</b>	Antibiotic Prescribing Appropriateness Measures
<b>AR</b>	Any untoward and unintended response to an investigational medicinal product related to any dose administered.
<b>ARGs</b>	Antibiotic resistance genes
<b>AST</b>	Antimicrobial susceptibility testing
<b>Bacteriophage</b>	Commonly called a phage, is a virus that infects and replicates within a bacterium.
<b>Bacterium</b>	Any of a large group of single-celled organisms which have no organized nucleus.
<b>Biofilm</b>	Colony of billions of bacteria living on the surface of something that can provide them with water and nutrients. The biofilm colony produces a protective slimy coat.

<b>BSI</b>	Bloodstream infection
<b>Cell</b>	The basic unit of life. Cells can exist as independent life forms, such as bacteria and protists—or form tissues in more complicated life forms.
<b>Chromosome</b>	Thread-like structures that become visible in the nucleus of a cell just before it divides. Chromosomes carry genes that determine the characteristics of an organism.
<b>Compound</b>	Two or more chemical elements forming a substance.
<b>Contagious</b>	Describes a disease that can be transmitted by contact between one organism and another.
<b>CPE</b>	Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae
<b>CRE</b>	Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae
<b>DDD</b>	Defined Daily Doses
<b>Disease Agent</b>	Any organism, such as a bacterium, that can cause disease.
<b>DNA</b>	Deoxyribonucleic acid – genetic material of almost all living organisms, except some viruses. DNA is formed by two long chains of nucleotides joined together in a double helix.
<b>DRI</b>	Drug resistant infections.
<b>EM</b>	Experimental Medicine
<b>Epidemic</b>	An infectious disease that affects many people at the same time and spreads rapidly.
<b>Epidemiology</b>	The study of population and community health, not just individuals.
<b>Equipoise</b>	A state of uncertainty where a person believes it is equally likely that either of two treatment options is better.
<b>ESBL</b>	Extended-spectrum beta-lactamase
<b>Evidence base</b>	A collection of all the research <u>data</u> currently available about a health or social care topic, such as how well a treatment or a service works.
<b>Evolve</b>	In biology, to develop a characteristic over a period of time as a result of mutation and natural selection.
<b>FQRP</b>	Fluoroquinolone-Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa
<b>Fungus</b>	Spore producing organisms such as mushrooms and moulds
<b>Gene</b>	A unit of heredity, a gene is a set of instructions for assembling a protein from amino acids. Each gene is a length of DNA and each chromosome carries a number of genes.
<b>HAI</b>	Hospital Acquired Infection. Medical term for a HAI is nosocomial.
<b>Helminth</b>	Any of a group of parasitic worms – such as flukes, tapeworms.
<b>HPV</b>	Human papillomavirus
<b>ICU</b>	Intensive care unit
<b>Immune System</b>	Cells of the body that give protection against invasion by foreign microorganisms such as bacteria and viruses. These cells directly attack invading organisms and cells that destroy infected body cells.
<b>Immunization</b>	By introducing a weakened or killed form of a virus into the body the immune system triggers a response to that particular disease thus making the body ready to deal with the active form of the virus if encountered.
<b>IMP</b>	Investigational Medicinal Product: an unlicensed new drug, or an existing drug tested outside its licence, or existing drugs tested against each other for their efficacy/safety.
<b>IND</b>	Investigational New Drug: sometimes used instead of IMP
<b>Infection</b>	An invasion of an organism by disease causing microorganisms.
<b>Infectious</b>	Something capable of causing infection or is caused by an infection.
<b>Interferon</b>	When cells in the body are infected by viruses they produce a protein, interferon, which then travels to other non-infected cells to protect them from infection.
<b>IPC</b>	Infection, prevention and control

<b>KPC</b>	Klebsiella pneumoniae carbapenemase
<b>Medical Device</b>	Any instrument, apparatus, implement, machine, appliance, implant, software, material, or other similar or related article
<b>MIC</b>	Minimum inhibitory concentration
<b>Microbe</b>	A minute organism typically visible under a microscope. Microbes include bacteria, fungi and protozoan parasites.
<b>Microbiome</b>	A community of microorganisms, such as bacteria, fungi, and viruses, that inhabit a particular environment and especially the collection of microorganisms living in or on the human body.
<b>Microorganism</b>	Any microscopic living thing such as bacteria and protists.
<b>Morbidity</b>	Illness or harm.
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>MRSA</b>	Methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus
<b>MSSA</b>	Methicillin Sensitive staphylococcus aureus
<b>Mutation</b>	A usually harmful change in the genes produced by a change in the DNA as it is copied during cell division.
<b>Mycosis</b>	Growth of fungus on or in the body.
<b>NDM</b>	New Delhi metallo-beta-lactamase
<b>Nosocomial</b>	Medical term for a hospital-acquired infection
<b>Nutrient</b>	Any nutritious substance found in food.
<b>OXA</b>	Oxacillinase
<b>Pandemic</b>	An epidemic that is spread over a wide geographical area.
<b>Parasite</b>	An organism living on another and benefiting at the expense of it.
<b>PBP</b>	Penicillin-binding protein
<b>PCV</b>	Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine
<b>Plasmid</b>	A circular strand of DNA found in bacteria that is separate from the main chromosome DNA.
<b>Protein</b>	One of a group of complex organic molecules that perform a variety of essential tasks in living things.
<b>Protists</b>	A diverse group of organisms that are either unicellular or multicellular without highly specialized tissues.
<b>PV</b>	Pharmacovigilance, the science relating to the detection, assessment, understanding and prevention of the adverse effects of medicines.
<b>QA</b>	Quality Assurance
<b>Quarantine</b>	Period of time during which a person or animal suspected of carrying an infectious
<b>QC</b>	Quality Control
<b>QLQ</b>	Quality of Life Questionnaire
<b>QP</b>	Qualified Person. All manufacturing activities will need to be conducted in a unit which has an IMP manufacturing authorisation with a named Qualified Person (QP). disease is kept isolated to prevent the spread of disease.
<b>Radiation</b>	Energy transmitted in the form of waves or particles as a result of the breakdown of a radioactive substance.
<b>RNA</b>	Ribonucleic acid, a nucleic acid present in all living cells. Its principal role is to act as a messenger carrying instructions from DNA for controlling the synthesis of proteins, although in some viruses RNA rather than DNA carries the genetic information.
<b>RVD</b>	Rational Vaccine Design
<b>Rupture</b>	To break open or burst
<b>SAE</b>	Serious Adverse Event -any adverse event or adverse reaction that is Life-threatening and results in death.
<b>SAR</b>	Serious Adverse Reaction. Any adverse event or adverse reaction that results in death, is

life-threatening\*, requires hospitalisation or prolongation of existing hospitalisation, results in persistent or significant disability or incapacity, or is a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

<b>SARS</b>	Severe acute respiratory syndrome virus of the genus Betacoronavirus
<b>SHV</b>	Sulphydryl-variable beta-lactamase
<b>SIR</b>	Susceptible, intermediate, resistant
<b>SPC</b>	Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC or SPC) The basis of information for health professionals on how to use the medicinal product safely and effectively.
<b>Spleen</b>	Organ of the body that also destroys old and damaged red blood cells.
<b>Spore</b>	Resting state of a bacterium entered when conditions are unfavourable. A spore can successfully resist hostile conditions for a long time.
<b>ST</b>	Sequence type
<b>Strain</b>	A group of organisms of one species that have distinctive characteristics but are not sufficiently different to be considered a separate species
<b>SUSAR</b>	Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reactions. An adverse reaction that is both unexpected (not consistent with the applicable product information) and also meets the definition of a Serious Adverse Event/Reaction.
<b>Symptom</b>	Any change in mind or body that indicates that someone is suffering from a disease.
<b>Synthetic</b>	Something produced by artificial means rather than naturally.
<b>Toxicity</b>	The degree to which a medicine is poisonous. How much of a medicine can be taken before it has a toxic effect.
<b>Toxin</b>	Poisonous substance produced by an organism such as a bacterium.
<b>UAR</b>	Unexpected Adverse Reaction: An adverse reaction, the nature or severity of which is not consistent with the applicable product information
<b>UTI</b>	Urinary Tract Infection
<b>Vaccination</b>	Giving a vaccine in order to give protection from a disease.
<b>Vaccine</b>	A weakened or killed form of a bacterium or virus that causes disease, given to stimulate the immune system to produce antibodies against the disease.
<b>Vector</b>	The path by which a disease causing microorganism travels from one host to another. Biting insects are a common vector of disease.
<b>VIM</b>	Verona integron-encoded metallo-beta-lactamase
<b>Virulent</b>	The disease causing ability of a microorganism.
<b>Virus</b>	Viruses are disease agents and are true parasites as they need a living organism as a host; they are not complete living organisms. Viruses occupy a special taxonomic position: they are not plants, animals, or prokaryotic bacteria (single-cell organisms without defined nuclei), and they are generally placed in their own kingdom.
<b>VRE</b>	Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus, or vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE), are bacterial strains of the genus Enterococcus that are resistant to the antibiotic Vancomycin.



**Penicillin heralded the dawn of the antibiotic age - due to overuse and misuse we are approaching a post-antibiotic age.**

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