As well as being one of the few large pharmaceutical companies to continue investing in the research and development of a strong infection management portfolio, AstraZeneca is also calling for a multi-stakeholder approach among policymakers, health leaders, patient and physician groups and industry to tackle the hurdles that prevent antibiotics coming to market, by addressing the following challenges:

**Antibiotic stewardship**
- Increased awareness of the need for antimicrobial stewardship, an activity that includes appropriate selection, dosing, route, and duration of antimicrobial therapy, is necessary to help address the threat posed by antibiotic resistance.

- There is an urgent need for collaboration to develop or update a locally-relevant framework of stewardship practices, which delineate responsible surveillance, prescribing practices and antibiotic use to address current trends in increasing AMR.

**Regulatory Pathways**
- New antimicrobial drugs are needed urgently, but the current drug pipeline is alarmingly thin with many companies moving away from antibiotic development. Innovative regulatory approaches that balance the data needed for registration with the unmet medical need would encourage further drug development.

- Positive steps have been taken by leading regulatory authorities. These new approaches to regulatory pathways will facilitate the development of new drugs to combat emerging, rare pathogens, especially those that are resistant to multiple antibiotics. It will be important to see these new ideas implemented globally.

**Commercial Models**
- Current private/public models are not conducive to bringing antibiotics to market. The pipeline is virtually dry, especially in Gram-negative bacteria; an area which particularly needs new antibiotics. Antibiotics need to be viewed as a public good similar to the fire fighting system in place in all communities and will require a reimbursement strategy that recognizes the reality of the insurance value of antibiotics.

More detailed information on the public health threat of AMR and each of the three key areas where AstraZeneca believes a multi-stakeholder approach is urgently needed to tackle the hurdles that prevent antibiotics coming to market, is available should you be interested in finding out more.

**Links to Additional Resources**


Version
Updated November 2015
V4.0