



## Internal news and events

### AMR Network Events 2020/21

Thank you to [Dr Michiel Vos](#) and [Dr Christina Coelho](#) – our speakers at the “jargon-free” webinar earlier this month – and to [Dr Jehangir Cama](#) for chairing the event. We had two more very interesting talks about research that is taking place and the discussion that followed revealed opportunities for future collaborations.

#### **Next AMR Network event: Thursday 18 March 12:15-1:15pm**

**Fungal Fusion:** The next AMR Network event will be at 12:15pm on Thursday 18 March when a number of speakers from the [MRC Centre for Medical Mycology](#) (CMM) will talk about their work in addressing fungal antimicrobial resistance. With this event, they are aiming to broaden the network of colleagues working in this area and foster long-term potential collaborations which complement and expand existing CMM research into:

- Novel antifungal drug targets
- Antifungal drug discovery
- Mode of action of drug studies
- Antifungal antibodies for diagnostic and therapeutic use
- Antifungal stewardship

Speakers will include: [Professor Neil Gow](#), [Professor Elizabeth Johnson](#), [Professor Adilia Warris](#), [Professor Elaine Bignell](#) and [Dr Carolina Coelho](#).

The invite to this event was sent out in December. If you do not have it, the link to join the event is [here](#) or, alternatively, please contact [AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk) and it will be forwarded to you.

### **Forthcoming AMR events**

The full list of dates for the year is available on the [AMR Network webpage](#) and details are published there as they are confirmed. Information on past events and previous newsletters for the Network can also be accessed on the site.

Coming up this year are:

- Wednesday 21 April – re-scheduled date: [Clare Chandler](#), Professor of Medical Anthropology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Director of the LSHTM Antimicrobial Resistance Centre, in conversation with [Professor Rich Smith](#), UoE College of Medicine and Health
- Wednesday 19 May – “jargon-free” webinar
- Thursday 17 June – guest speaker
- Tuesday 20 July – collaborative opportunity

All events start at 12:15pm and finish by 1:45pm.

**Get involved:** if you are interested in presenting at one of the AMR Network events, or if you would like to chair one of them, please get in touch with us via the [AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk) email address.

### Other internal events

Another member of the UoE AMR Network is the Environment & Sustainability Institute (ESI) featured academic this month. [Professor Stuart Townley](#) will be giving his ESI State of the Art talk on *Mathematics: A language of collaboration*. More information about the talk is on the ESI webpage [here](#).

**Details:** Monday 22 February, 1pm-2pm.

Please contact [esidirector@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:esidirector@exeter.ac.uk) if you are not on the ESI mailing list and would like to attend.

### News

**Publication:** [Professor Henry Buller](#) is one of the co-authors in [One Health drivers of antibacterial resistance: quantifying the relative impacts of human, animal and environmental use and transmission](#), published online in the Journal *One Health*.

**Publication:** [Professor Steve Hinchliffe](#) is the author of [Postcolonial Global Health, Post-Colony Microbes and Antimicrobial Resistance](#) published in *Theory, Culture & Society*, February 2021.

Don't forget to use **#ExeterAMR**

## External news and events

### External event: Professor Anna Vassall

Professor Anna Vassall, Director of the Centre of Health Economics in London (CHiL), LSHTM, will be speaking on *Health sector priority setting: considering poverty, health systems and the economy*. More details and the webinar link to join the lecture are on the [LSHTM website](#).

**Details:** Thursday 25 February, 5:15pm.

### European Public Health Alliance: call for good practice

The European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) has put out a call for examples of good practice to tackle antimicrobial resistance. Full details are on the website [here](#). The deadline is 15 March 2021.

### **Advancing Data Technologies to Corner AMR 2021: call for presenters**

This symposium will focus on the role of data technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain in addressing antimicrobial resistance, including their use in AMR surveillance, microbial genomics, and the research and development of new antibiotics and diagnostics. More details are available on the [AMR Insights website](#).

**Details:** Thursday 24 June 2021

### **Wellcome Trust: new funding strategy**

Wellcome is launching a new strategy to address urgent global health challenges, including infectious diseases. More information on the new discovery research schemes, including who they will support and eligibility, is available on the website [here](#), where you can also sign up for the Research Update newsletter. Full details on the new schemes are due shortly and applications to the scheme will open this summer.

### **Funding opportunity: JPIAMR One Health interventions to prevent or reduce the development and transmission of AMR**

A reminder that UKRI announced this JPI Antimicrobial Resistance funding opportunity on 14 January 2021. Proposals should aim either to:

1. Understand the impact of interventions on the development and transmission of antibiotic resistance in, and/or between, at least two One Health settings; or
2. Design, implement, evaluate and/or compare innovative interventions to control the development and transmission of antibiotic resistance in, and/or between, at two One Health settings.

Research proposals must focus on at least two out of the three “One-Health” settings, being: Human Health, Animal Health, and Environment. Participation of low and middle income countries is encouraged. The key dates are:

- Call opened: 14 January 2021
- Deadline for pre-proposals: 16 March 2021
- Deadline for full proposals: 12 July 2021

Full information is on the [JPIAMR website](#).

As noted previously, if you considering making an application, please could you contact Dr Vicki Dunn, Research Development Manager and the lead for AMR within Research Services ([V.E.Dunn@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:V.E.Dunn@exeter.ac.uk)).

### **Recent publications/articles**

Damn J A Toth, Matthew H Samore, Richard E Nelson: [Economic Evaluations of New Antibiotics: The High Potential Value of Reducing Healthcare Transmission Through Decolonization](#), published in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, Volume 72, Issue Supplement 1

Nadine Kraupner, Marion Hutinel, Kilian Schumacher, Declan A Gray, Maja Genheden, Jerker Fick, Carl-Fredrik Flach, D G Joakim Larsson: [Evidence for selection of multi-resistant E.coli by hospital effluent](#), published in *Environment International* (Science Direct), volume 150

Oliver Schacht: [The state of bioinformatics in the fight against AMR](#), *European Pharmaceutical Manufacturer*

Aditi Siriam, Erta Kalanxhi, Geetanjali Kapoor, Jess Craig, Ruchita Balasubramanian, Sehr Brar, Nicola Criscuolo, Alisa Hamilton, Eili Klein, Katie Tseng, Thomas P Van Boeckel, Ramanan Laxminarayan: [The State of the World's Antibiotics Report in 2021](#), published by the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP)

## Spotlight on...

**Dr Ozgur Akman** is an applied mathematician whose research focuses on developing methods to construct and analyse predictive models of biochemical and neural systems. A particular focus of his work is combining machine learning with optimisation algorithms to fit and characterise response surfaces using data from biological experiments and computer simulations. This data includes bacterial growth measured for different combinations of antibiotic-phage treatments by the Pagliara lab, and is part of a broader programme of work within his group related to reproducibility and the design of iterative, autonomous biotechnology experiments. His full profile can be viewed [here](#).



As a mathematical modeller, **Dr Adam Pollard** works on the interface of the NHS, academia and the commercial sector. Currently, he works for the NHS in a statistical role whilst pursuing modelling projects with [Numeration](#). He has been associated with Exeter and CSM (and as a former Hydrogeologist) for 30 years. Adam has cerebral palsy so one of his research interests centres on people with chronic conditions/disabilities and initiatives to help them manage their health better. This has cross-over with AMR use. A couple of years ago he was invited to by the Office of the CSO NHS England to submit a tender for a modelling programme to underpin AMR metrics and help pinpoint AMR usage without compromising health outcomes. The area he is probably best known for is the sustainability of healthcare which has seen collaborations between Numeration and the University. In the past couple of years he has delivered talks to Yale on this subject including at the Workshop on Environmental Sustainability in Clinical Care. Given the carbon wrapped up in drug production he is particularly keen to explore synergies between better AMR usage and improved carbon management in healthcare, especially if driven by social prescribing and preventative healthcare, and he has Stateside collaborators eager to work on this.



Senior Press and Media Manager **Louise Vennells** is part of the press office. The team is always keen to promote newsworthy AMR research to the media, and via university communications channels, including web, media, blogs and social media. Louise is a former journalist with an MSc in Science Communication. She has faced CMH for the past seven years, and recently worked closely with academics and marketing agency Mammoth to produce copy for the [AMR research communication campaign](#). Louise's full profile can be viewed [here](#). When you have research that could be newsworthy, please contact the press office as soon as it is accepted by a journal, or before it goes live if uploading as a pre-print. The press office is also interested in communications hooks including funding awards and academic successes. Contact them on [pressoffice@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:pressoffice@exeter.ac.uk).



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