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## Internal news and events

### AMR Network Events Calendar 2021/22

We are pleased to announce that there will be an **Exeter AMR Network event on Tuesday 7 June at 13.00 hours**. This event focuses on the environmental compartment of the One Health triumvirate and specifically on the role of understanding and mitigating the risks of pharmaceutical pollution.

Dr Kelly Thornber, Interdisciplinary Research Fellow in Sustainable Development, will present her work on understanding the socio-ecological systems driving pharmaceutical pollution in both Bangladesh aquaculture settings and in a UK healthcare context. Dr Aimee Murray, Lecturer in Microbiology researching the evolution and ecology of antimicrobial resistance in the environment, will talk about her work on selection for AMR by pharmaceutical contaminants in aquatic systems.

### ESI ECR networking events are back

The ESI ECR networking event is back on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm to 6 pm in the ESI Interactive Space. There will be an option to join online. These events are first and foremost organised to have casual discussions between ECRs, discuss research challenges, and potentially start collaborations. This month, we will be discussing **research outreach and research impact**. This will be the opportunity to share any experience on these matters or any future plans you have and receive some insights from peers.

Pasties and drinks will be provided! Please register ASAP here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/esi-ecr-networking-event-tickets-326638152507>

Looking forward to seeing you in person or online!

## Congratulations to...

Well done to Adrian Campey for winning the best presentation award at the very first LSI PhD Day studying microbes and why AMR matters.



## Other news

### Funding opportunity: MRC/NIHR

[MRC/NIHR Better Research, Better Methods](#)

Apply for funding to improve the methods used by others in biomedical and health research.

Call opens: **6<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Call deadline: **15<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 17:00**

Project value: **Up to £625k (at 100%fEC) per project, to be funded at 80%fEC**

Application process: **Through [JeS](#) (see guidance attached for detail)**

Eligibility: **PIs must have a graduate degree (a PhD is expected for most applicants) and be based at an organisation eligible for UKRI funding**

Remit: **Your project must focus on an area within [the MRC remit](#) and/or [the NIHR remit](#)**

Out of remit: **Technology or biomarker development is out of remit for funding**

Note that this is an ongoing scheme. Application rounds open twice per year, closing in June and November. This opportunity seeks to fund research that includes at least one of the following project categories:

#### Methodology research

*Your project can include research into methodologies underpinning health or biomedical research that extends beyond a single case study or application. Research outputs should be designed to maximise: accessibility, informative value, utility across broader research communities, sectors or systems.*

#### Improving methods used

*Your research should respond to an evidenced barrier to uptake of optimal research methods. It should be framed within a pathway to improve community practice by methodologists or non-methodologists, or both. This can include: research standards, theory, implementation, adoption of optimal methods.*

#### Improving research outputs

*Your methodology research should make the outputs of biomedical and health research more useful to others. For example, this can be across:*

*Scales, experimental approaches, systems, disciplines, translational pathways.*

Please see [the call page](#) or guidance attached for an inexhaustive list of suggested research themes for this opportunity.

Colleagues wishing to apply to this call should please add their Idea to [the T1 pipeline](#) in order for Research Services support to be allocated.

If you have project updates or resources that you think might be of interest to other members of the Network, we would be pleased to highlight them through this monthly newsletter – contact us on [AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk)

## Publications

Tackling the emerging threat of antifungal resistance to human health.

Fisher MC, Alastruey-Izquierdo A, Berman J, Bicanic T, Bignell EM, Bowyer P, Bromley M, Brüggemann R, Garber G, Cornely OA, Gurr SJ, Harrison TS, Kuijper E, Rhodes J, Sheppard DC, Warris A, White PL, Xu J, Zwaan B, Verweij PE.

Nat Rev Microbiol. 2022 Mar 29;1-15. doi: 10.1038/s41579-022-00720-1. Online ahead of print.

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

## GW4 AMR Alliance



### GW4 AMR Alliance

The [GW4 AMR Alliance](#) continues to welcome new members from all disciplines and working at any level.

## How to join

Please sign up [here](#) to complete a short online registration form (this link can also be found on the [website](#) along with our Privacy Policy). If you have any queries, please do contact the AMR Alliance team at [amr@gw4.ac.uk](mailto:amr@gw4.ac.uk)

If you would like to find out more about the GW4 AMR Alliance and its aims, as well as hear about some of the research that is taking place across the four partner universities of Bath, Bristol Cardiff and Exeter, please have a look at the launch event [here](#).

In April 2022, the AMR Alliance held a follow-up face-to-face collaborative bid-writing event attended by around 70 participants including our very own Professors Adilia Warris, Will Gaze and Stephen Hinchcliffe.

## GW4 AMR Alliance ECR and PGR Network

The GW4 AMR Alliance ECR and PGR Network is working to develop its community network. You can find out more, including key contacts at each of the four partner universities and information on the developing events programme, on the dedicated webpage [here](#). There is also a link to join the network on the same page.

The next Lightning Talks event will be on **Wednesday 27 April, 15.00-16.30 via zoom**, This is an opportunity to participate in/hear short (3 min) talks from GW4 Alliance ECRs and PGRs working in a range of AMR disciplines and to network in smaller breakout groups hosted by committee members. Booking is now open via the attached link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lightning-talks-networking-event-gw4-amr-alliance-ecr-and-pgr-network-tickets-302584407107>

## External news and events

### Funding opportunities

#### **Call now open: JPIAMR 15th Call Disrupting Drug Resistance Using Innovative Design International collaboration to address antimicrobial resistance**

JPIAMR is launching a transnational network call under the umbrella of the JPIAMR and within the framework of the ERA-NET JPIAMR-ACTION. The call *Diagnostics and Surveillance Networks* involves funding organisations from 11 countries to date.

The aim of this call is to assemble networks of leading experts and stakeholders with an intent to facilitate the development, optimisation and use of diagnostic and surveillance tools, technologies and systems. Networks should work towards the conceptualisation of ideas in order to provide white papers, guidance documents and/or best practices/roadmaps and evidence frameworks to identify key questions to be addressed and/or potential solutions to overcome barriers to enhanced surveillance and advanced diagnostics to reduce the burden of AMR.

Networks should connect experts from research performing organisations and/or establish clusters with different relevant stakeholders and end users in the AMR community. Networks may build upon new or existing global collaborations/partnerships.

Each network coordinator will be able to apply for a maximum of 50,000 euros for a 12 or 24 month period to support its activity.

#### Timeline:

**12 April 2022** – call opens

**25 April 2022, 13.00 hours** – webinar

**14 June 2022** – proposal deadline

For further details, please visit: [Diagnostics and Surveillance Networks – JPIAMR](#)

#### UKRI BBSRC call

Pre-announcement: strategic longer and larger grants (sLoLa): frontier bioscience 2022 to 2023

[Strategic Longer \(sLoLa\) call](#)

Your project:

- should bring together a diverse multidisciplinary team to address a complex challenge
- should have the potential to deliver transformational impact across the biosciences
- must improve our understanding of the fundamental 'rules of life' that govern biological systems.
- The full economic cost of your project must be over £2 million. BBSRC will fund 80% of the full economic cost.
- Projects can be up to five years in duration.
- Links to webinars: [3 May](#) and [12 May](#)

#### Sector news

**NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence)** reaches important milestone in the UK's efforts to tackle antimicrobial resistance. Check out the full article here:

<https://www.nice.org.uk/news/article/nice-reaches-important-milestone-in-the-uk-s-efforts-to-tackle-antimicrobial-resistance>

**CSIRO (Australia's National Science agency)** has reported that antimicrobial resistance is making UTIs (urinary tract infections) more deadly. Follow the piece here:

<https://www.csiro.au/en/news/news-releases/2022/csiro-study-finds-antimicrobial-resistance-is-making-utis-more-deadly>

At the **Pasteur Institute in Lille, France** work continues around the micropumps behind antibiotic resistance, more here: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-00799-9>

#### Sector events

**The British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy** will hold its Spring Conference **10-11 May 2022** for more details and to register click here: <https://bsac-conference.com/>

**LSHTM webinar series event 10 May 2022, 13:00-14:00 UK time.** Prof Sanjib Bhakta (University of London and UCL) will talk about Integrating interdisciplinary approaches to tackle antimicrobial drug

resistance in tuberculosis. To find out more, <https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/newsevents/events/integrating-interdisciplinary-approaches-tackle-antimicrobial-drug-resistance>

**AMR Insights** are holding a follow-up event on **16-20 May 2022** under the banner of an Innovation Mission – more details attached: <https://www.amr-insights.eu/amr-innovation-uk-2022/>

### WHO events for May

There are a number of AMR associated events, check the link here for further info: <https://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/disease-prevention/antimicrobial-resistance/news/news/2022/01/coming-up-in-2022>

Titles include:

16-20 May: European Public Health Week (EUPHW)

22-28 May: World Health Assembly 2022

30 May–4 June: Global Rapid Response Mobile Laboratories (RRML/GOARN) Simulation Exercise

31 May: World No Tobacco Day (WNTD)



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