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## Internal news and events

### ***Researching Resistance* - now live in The Forum, Streatham Campus, until 26 November 2021**

We are delighted to announce that the photography exhibition that we commissioned, *Researching Resistance*, is now on display in [The Forum](#) on Streatham Campus. The exhibition, which went up on Monday 15 November and is available to view until Friday 26 November, is a collaboration between investigative artist [Simon Ryde](#) and the [AMR Network](#). It features portraits of fifteen members of the Network, representing a range of different research areas and career stages, illustrating that antimicrobial resistance requires the collaboration of people working across the full range of subjects



In producing the images, Simon built on the Creative Fellowship when he worked with the AMR Network. Of this exhibition, he said, *"I was looking for a way of blending academics and their work into an overall portrait of the AMR network, to show the diversity of people and research being undertaken in this important field. I chose to do this using the medium of point clouds, atomising everything to a 3D mass of dots that you can imagine flowing between images, mixing and reforming, a single mass of resistance."*



The exhibition, which coincides with the week of World Antimicrobial Awareness Week, will travel to the [Environment and Sustainability Institute](#) at Penryn Campus early in 2022 and is also available to [view digitally](#).

Many thanks to all of the academic staff who so willingly gave up their time to be part of this project, and also Kelly Thornber, Katya Romankevich, Naome Glanville and Emma Lamb for their vision and work in bringing it to fruition. We would also like to acknowledge, with gratitude, the generous assistance of the [MRC Centre for Medical Mycology](#) and [Arts & Culture](#).



All portrait images copyright [Simon Ryder](#) and re-produced here with his kind permission

## AMR Network Events Calendar 2021/22

**Wednesday 15 December 2021:** following the popularity of last year's AMR Speed Collaborating event, we are going to run the event again with two new topics. The premise of this event is that members will be split into small interdisciplinary breakout groups and tasked with developing a seed corn AMR project in response to a specific challenge - in just 10 minutes.

Updates on challenges and speakers will be available on [our website](#).

An invite for this event has been sent to all members of the AMR Network. If you did not receive it or need it re-sending to you, please contact [AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:AMR-Network@exeter.ac.uk). All are welcome.

**January 2022** (date tbc): [Professor John Dupré](#), Professor in Philosophy of Science and Director of Egenis

### Internal news

#### Congratulations to...

[Dr Stineke van Houte](#) and [Professor Will Gaze](#) who have won a Joint Programme Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JPIAMR) grant on "Microbiota Intervention Strategies Limiting Selection and Transmission of Antibiotic Resistance Burden in the One Health Domain" (MISTAR). This is a consortium grant with partners in the Netherlands, UK, Belgium, Spain and Brazil.



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

**Publication:** Winter, M., Buckling, A., Harms, K., Johnsen, P. J., & Vos, M. [Antimicrobial resistance acquisition via natural transformation: context is everything](#). (*Current Opinion in Microbiology*)

**Publication:** Lear, L., Padfield, D., Dowsett, T., Jones, M., Kay, S., Hayward, A., & Vos, M. [Bacterial colonisation dynamics of household plastics in a coastal environment](#). (*available via bioRxiv, Biology preprint*)

**Publication:** Conners, R., McLaren, M., Lapinksa, U., Sanders, K., Stone, M., Blaskovich, M., Pagliara, S., Daum, B., Rakonjac, J. & Gold, V. [CryoEM structure of the outer membrane secretin channel pIV from the f1 filamentous bacteriophage](#). (*Nature Communications*)

**Publication:** Chen, H., Yin, Y., van Dorp, L., Shaw, L., Gao, H., Acman, M., Yuan, J., Chen, F., Sun, S., Wang, X., Li, S., Zhang, Y., Farrer, R., Wang, H. & Balloux, F. [Drivers of methicillin-resistant \*Staphylococcus aureus\* \(MRSA\) lineage replacement in China](#) (*Genome Medicine*)



Image: Aquaculture in Bangladesh

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. Recent developments include a newly-established network for Early Career Researchers (ECRs) and Postgraduate students.

### **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).

Many thanks and we look forward to you joining us. If you have any queries, please do contact the AMR Alliance team at [amr@gw4.ac.uk](mailto:amr@gw4.ac.uk)

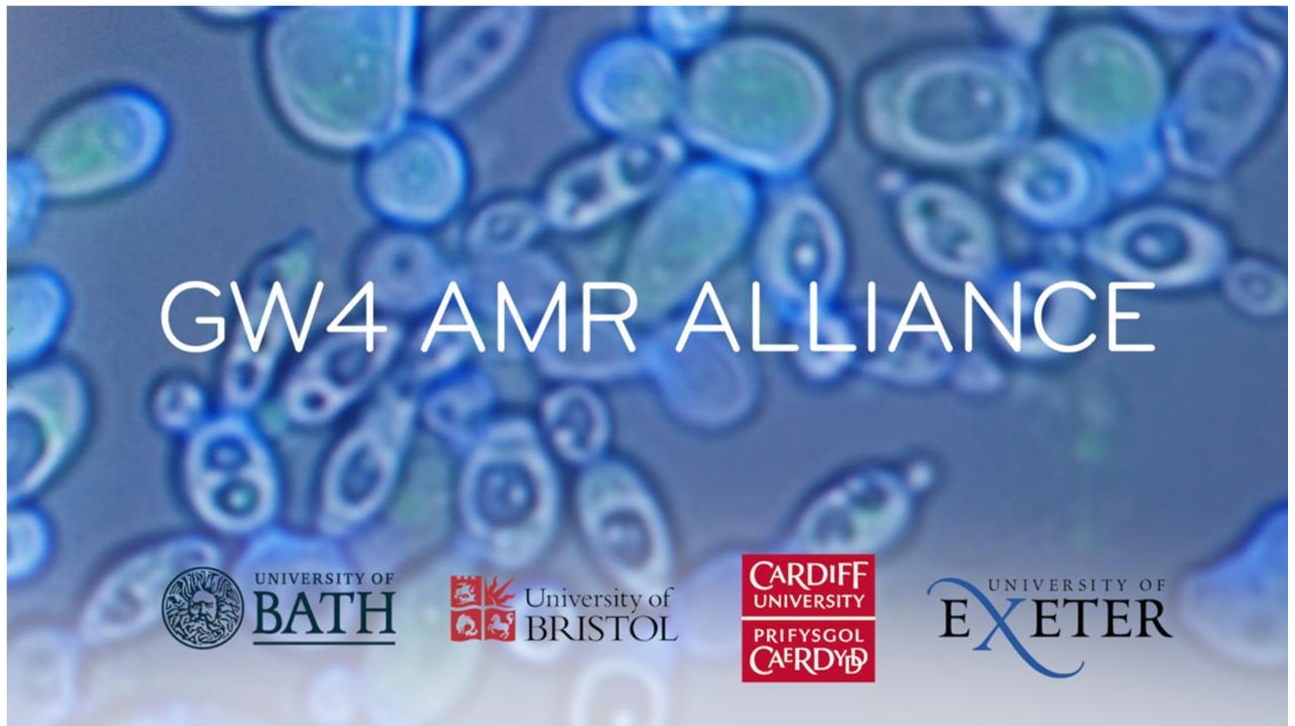
If you would like to find out more about the GW4 AMR Alliance and its aims, as well as hear about some of the research that is taking place across the four partner universities of Bath, Bristol Cardiff and Exeter, please have a look at the launch event [here](#).

### **GW4 AMR Alliance film launched**

The GW4 AMR Alliance's response to the global challenge of antimicrobial resistance is showcased in a new video that was released on 18 November, the start of World Antimicrobial Awareness Week.

The film showcases researchers from all four of the partner universities - Bath, Bristol, Exeter and Cardiff - and features researchers from the University of Exeter include Professors Steve Hinchliffe, Adilia Warris, Will Gaze and Dr Anne Leonard. Thanks to the European Centre for Environment & Human Health and Professor Steve Hinchliffe and Dr Kelly Thornber for some of the additional footage that illustrates commentary on the film.

You can view the film [here](#).



### **GW4 AMR Alliance - Members Directory now live**

The GW4 AMR Alliance has set up a workspace so that you can find potential collaborators (now and as the Alliance grows) and make contact. Using the Slack platform, this will bring all GW4 AMR Alliance communication into one place - you can find other members, join groups (channels), message people, upload files, start discussion groups

### ***Online working groups - the GW4 AMR Alliance can help facilitate new collaborations within your area of expertise***

Once you are using the directory, you may like to set up cross-institutional online meetings, discussion groups or workshops with other investigators working within your area. The GW4 AMR team would be very happy to help with that and organise meetings. Please contact us at [amr@gw4.ac.uk](mailto:amr@gw4.ac.uk) to discuss.

#### **GW4 AMR Alliance event**

**Cross-disciplinary themes; save the date for a Sandpit/Networking event in Exeter (hotel), Thursday 13th - Friday 14th January 2022**

Whilst the GW4 AMR Alliance is keen to bring people together in the areas you are already focusing on, one of the main reasons for setting up the network is to initiate and help develop new cross- and interdisciplinary AMR research for funding.

The Steering Group has recently ratified four cross-disciplinary One Health AMR themes and an in-person event is planned for early January. This will provide an opportunity to brainstorm and work up ideas and potential bids within those themes. This is a two-day meeting with a funded networking dinner and overnight stay for those who need hotel accommodation.

More information about the cross-disciplinary themes, the event and eligibility for attending will be sent to GW4 AMR Alliance members shortly.



Image: Researchers in the MRC Centre for Medical Mycology

## External news and events



World Antimicrobial  
Awareness Week 2021-  
Spread awareness, stop  
resistance



Antibiotics  
Antivirals  
Antifungals  
Antiparasitics

### Forthcoming calls

There are two upcoming **JPIAMR** calls:

1. JPIAMR 14th Call: [Disrupting Drug Resistance Using Innovative Design](#)
2. JPIAMR 15th Call: [Diagnostic and Surveillance Networks](#)

#### [Disrupting Drug Resistance Using Innovative Design](#)

This call aims to improve the treatment of bacterial and fungal infections (including co-infection) and/or the prevention of the emergence/spread of resistance in humans, animals or plants through the improvement of the efficacy, specificity, delivery, combinations and/or repurposing of drugs and plant protection agents. Proposals should focus on licenced antimicrobial agents (antibiotics/antifungals) or agents under pre-clinical and/or early clinical development. More information on eligibility and focus is

available on the website. The preannouncement of this call is also on the [UKRI site](#).

**Key dates:**

Call opens: 11 January 2022

Deadline – pre-proposals: 8 March 2022

Deadline – full proposals: 5 July 2022

[Diagnostics and Surveillance Networks](#)

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. More information is available on the website

**Key dates:**

Detailed pre-announcement: 22 March 2022

Call opens: 12 April 2022

Webinar for applicants: 28 April 2022

Proposal deadline: 14 June 2022

**Sector news**

**Antibiotic Research UK** reports that [antibiotic prescribing by GPs fell by 17% during first 12 months of COVID without usual winter increase](#).

The **WHO** has published guidance on [how nations can integrate AMR policies into development planning](#).

Amongst other WAAW resources, The **WHO** has also written a short article about [Italy's one health approach to antibiotic resistance](#).

The **ECDC** has published its latest response plan to [tackle and manage the threat of multi- and extensively drug-resistant gonorrhoea in Europe](#), using data from 2019.

**Sector events**

It's **World Antibiotic Awareness Week**, organised by the WHO. [Click here](#) to see their latest webinars and events.

Calling all undergraduates: **Antibiotic Research UK** is hosting the **Great University Science Quiz** on **Wednesday 24 November**, where undergraduate teams can compete with one another. To register, [click here](#).

**LSHTM** webinar: [Estimating antibiotic consumption, access and use around the world](#). Speakers: Dr Do Thi Thuy Nga and Professor Christane Dolecek. **14 December 2021, 1.00pm-2.00pm**

The **Microbiology Society's** Annual Conference will be held from **4-7 April 2022**, and is now open for [registration and abstract submissions](#). Abstract submission deadline: **11 January 2022**.

Save the date for **EDAR6** in Gothenburg, Sweden, **22-27 September 2022**. This will be the **6th International Symposium on the Environmental Dimension of Antibiotic Resistance**. The venue will be Lyktan, Conference Center Wallenberg, Medicinargatan 20 A, Göteborg, and opening of



registration and submission of abstracts will be April/May 2022. More information on the [conference website](#).

### **Publications of interest**

Pärnänen, K. M. M., Hultman, J., Markkanen, M., Satokari, R., Rautava, S., Lamendella, R., Wright, J., McLimans, C. J., Kelleher, S. L., Virta, M. P. [Early-life formula feeding is associated with infant gut microbiota alterations and an increased antibiotic resistance load](#). (*The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*)

Bottomley, C., Otiende, M., Uyoga, S., Gallagher, K., Kagucia, E. W., Etyang, A. O., Mugo, D., Gitonga, J., Karanja, H., Nyagwange, J., Adetifa, I. M. O., Agweyu, A., Nokes, D. J., Warimwe, G.M., & Scott, J. A. G. [Quantifying previous SARS-CoV-2 infection through mixture modelling of antibody levels](#). (*Nature Communications*)



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