

Transatlantic Taskforce on Antimicrobial Resistance



UNITED ACTION TO COMBAT AMR

TATFAR was created in 2009 to address the urgent threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). TATFAR's technical experts from Canada, the European Union (EU), Norway, and the United States (U.S.) collaborate and share best practices to strengthen domestic and global efforts in the fight against AMR.

KEY AREA 1– Human Medicine

Improving Use of Antimicrobial Drugs

TATFAR'S Leadership

Working together, members improve appropriate antimicrobial use in human healthcare through actions like:

- [Developing common structure](#) and process indicators for antimicrobial stewardship programs.
- Reviewing goals for appropriate human antimicrobial use in TATFAR countries and publishing [a resource](#) for other countries seeking to improve use.
- Aligning campaigns that promote appropriate antimicrobial use, including collaboration with other partners, like the World Health Organization, to support [World Antibiotic Awareness Week](#).
- Compiling resources for how to assess appropriate outpatient antimicrobial use in TATFAR countries.

Key Focus Areas



Improve antibiotic use in humans and animals



Prevent infections and their spread



Strengthen the drug pipeline

TATFAR Members Take Action

TATFAR members implement local strategies to combat AMR by promoting the appropriate use of antimicrobials in people, and with notable success.



Canada

Develops and shares guidance and products for appropriate antimicrobial use and infection prevention and control by health professionals and the public. For example:

- Generates awareness by the public and health professionals through campaigns such as [Choosing Wisely Canada](#) recommendations for appropriate antimicrobial use for urinary tract and upper respiratory infections.
- Requires the inclusion of precautionary statements in product labelling for antimicrobials used in humans.

EU

Aims to inform and assist in activities that promote prudent use of antimicrobials in people. For example:

- Adopted the [EU One Health Action Plan against AMR](#) to preserve effective treatment of infections.
- Developed [guidelines on the prudent use of antimicrobials in human health](#).
- Coordinates the [European Antibiotic Awareness Day](#), a European health initiative that provides support to national awareness and educational campaigns on prudent use of antibiotics in EU Member States.
- Re-evaluates and updates information of well-known “old” antibiotics available to healthcare professionals and patients across European Union in order to ensure appropriate use.

Norway

Strengthens scientific understanding and increases the prescriber and public understanding about antibiotics and their use. For example:

- Sets ambitious goals to reduce the human use of antibiotics and reduce prescriptions for antimicrobials, so Norway will be one of the three European countries that uses the least antibiotics in humans.
- Studies the burden of disease as a consequence of antibiotic resistance, as a consequence of possibly too little antibiotic use, and the effect of infection control measures.
- Implements and evaluates programs for the general prescribers aimed at optimizing antibiotic prescribing, and ensure that antibiotic guidelines are up to date.

U.S.

Improves antimicrobial use by increasing education and awareness among providers and the public, and driving enhancements to prevent infections. For example:

- Sets [ambitious goals](#) to reduce inappropriate human use of antibiotics in inpatient and outpatient settings, and provided recommendations in the U.S. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)'s Core Elements](#) to healthcare facilities to establish stewardship programs.
- Enhances nationwide capacity to implement targeted, coordinated strategies to stop infections and improve antimicrobial use through the CDC's [Antibiotic Resistance Solutions Initiative](#).
- Created national awareness campaigns for healthcare professionals and patients, like [Be Antibiotics Aware](#) to help reduce unnecessary antimicrobial prescriptions; [Get Ahead of Sepsis](#) to improve early recognition and treatment, which relies on antimicrobials; and [U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week](#) to raise awareness of AMR and the importance of appropriate antimicrobial prescribing and use.