

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 2

Prevention of Drug-resistant Infections

TATFAR'S Leadership

Working together, members prevent infections and their spread through actions like:

- Evaluating the burden of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) in TATFAR countries through point-prevalence surveys and publishing studies on HAIs and antibiotic use across healthcare facilities.
- Developing a common global system for sharing and analyzing information about resistant bacteria.
- Providing expertise in the development of a rapid alert system, led by World Health Organization, to notify countries of new and emerging types of resistance.
- Working with partners, including the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute and the European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing, to harmonize antibiotic breakpoints.

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 preventing drug-resistant Infections.



Canada

Reduce the transmission of drug resistant infections through the monitoring of HAIs and antimicrobial use in healthcare facilities and the community. For example:

- Conducts surveillance of HAIs and antimicrobial use through the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program.
- Studies the burden of HAIs and antimicrobial use in healthcare and community settings through point prevalence studies, including northern and rural hospitals and long-term care facilities.

EU

Aims to inform and assist in activities to prevent drug-resistant infections. For example:

- Developed an EU methodology and conducted [point prevalence surveys of HAIs and antimicrobial use in acute care hospitals](#) and in [long-term care facilities](#).
- Maintains an Early Warning and Response System (EWRS) and an Epidemic Intelligence Information System (EPIS), and publishes [rapid risk assessments](#) and evidence-based guidance for prevention and control of drug-resistant bacteria such as [carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae \(CRE\)](#).
- Regularly updates a [directory of online resources](#) for the prevention and control of AMR and HAIs.

Norway

- Works to reduce the transmission of drug-resistant infections by promoting appropriate use of antibiotics and improving understanding of drivers for the development and spread of AMR ([National Strategy against Antibiotic Resistance 2015–2020](#)).
- Conducts surveys on guideline implementations and the effect of interventions to reduce antibiotic consumptions in hospitals and long-term care facilities.
- Updating the national action plan for infection prevention and control to reduce the number of HAIs and the burden of AMR.

U.S.

- Develops, promotes, and implements [guidance](#) to control the spread of AMR including [novel and emerging AR threats](#).
- Builds [laboratory](#) and infection prevention and control expertise in combatting resistant infections in [state and local health departments](#).