

Antibacterial

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Global public health concern intensifies while medical science and business fail to cope with the indisputable and spreading pandemic of multi-drug resistant (MDR) pathogens. With the spread of known, as well as continuously emerging resistance mechanisms, fewer and fewer effective clinical treatment options remain and physicians often find themselves without a viable treatment option. The near absence of antimicrobial related investment in both large and small pharmaceutical companies means that the critical paucity of novel antibiotics that can be used to treat infections by MDR pathogens will continue for many years. Pharmaceutical pipelines barely trickle calling for alternative business and funding models. An intensified action plan recently introduced by the European Commission, along with joint international activities, will hopefully prime antibacterial pipelines. However, until the action plans bear fruit, several new antibacterial drugs based on known classes of antibiotics may become available in the next few years. While showing some benefit, these new analogs only partially address the clinical crisis of MDR pathogens. In this talk, we will look more deeply into how these new antibiotics will affect the clinical treatment options in the next 5-7 years.

