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The European Antibiotic Awareness Day - Promoting prudent antibiotic use in Europe!

The ESCMID Study Group for Antimicrobial stewardship (ESGAP) strongly supports the ECDC European Antibiotic Awareness Day initiative on Sunday, November 18, 2018!

We expect everyone to spread the word around the world about European Antibiotic Awareness Day on social media:

1. Tweet as much as you can with
   - #EAAD
   - #KeepAntibioticsWorking
   - #AntibioticResistance
2. Share what your organisation do for EAAD on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter with #KeepAntibioticsWorking.

**Most importantly, unleash the Global Twitter Storm** by sharing on Twitter: *Antibiotic resistance is one of the most urgent global health threats. Everyone has a role to play in improving antibiotic use to help fight #AntibioticResistance.*

Let’s make people aware of the importance of using antibiotics responsibly!
**The word from trainees**

TAE (Trainee Association of ESCMID) Steering Committee members are calling attention to the World Antibiotic Awareness Week #WAAW and the European Antibiotic Awareness Day #EAAD2018.

- Aleksandra Barac (Serbia): “Antibiotics are miracle drugs, that have saved millions of lives. Unfortunately, the miracle will disappear soon if we do not increase global awareness about antimicrobial resistance.”
- Cansu Cimen (Turkey): “Antibiotics: Think twice and handle with care or just put the unnecessary antibiotics down quickly!”
- Caroline Rönnberg (Sweden): “Antibiotics: less is more.”
- David Ong (The Netherlands): “An antibiotic is a double edged sword... Very effective in fighting infections and saving lives, but also creating new problems by inducing more antimicrobial resistance.”
- Zaira Palacios Baena (Spain): “Antibiotics: They are not always recommended!”

**Competencies**

ESCMID has developed a set of generic competencies in antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship, through a structured Europe-wide consensus procedure involving representatives from 24 countries. These competencies represent the minimum standards that all independent prescribers of antimicrobials should reach to practise according to the principles of responsible antimicrobial use, and are intended to be relevant for all independent prescribers in Europe. This project was coordinated by ESGAP, and many ESGAP members were part of the expert panel. The list of generic competencies is available on the ESCMID website. The set includes 35 competency points, in three sections: Core concepts in microbiology, pathogenesis and diagnosing infections; Antimicrobial prescribing; Antimicrobial stewardship. The manuscript describing the study has been published in Clinical Microbiology and Infection. These competencies can immediately be used by:

- Educators: To assess coverage of antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship principles in curricula; to design teaching materials; to assess if outcomes are reached by trainees.
- Regulators, professional bodies: To inform the setting of standards.
- Individual prescribers: To monitor their own competency.

**ECDC**

ECDC held a meeting on the 15th of November, for which you can find the program here. In addition, a lot of material on EAAD can be found here. Last but not least, you can access to campaigns from European countries here.

**OVLC**

Don’t forget to check the new resources recently posted on the ESGAP OVLC (http://esgap.escmid.org).

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**ESGAP member**

Would you like to receive up-to-date information on antimicrobial stewardship AS? Would you like to become an ESGAP member? Becoming an ESGAP member has never been easier: just log in to the ESCMID website (you need first to be an ESCMID member to become a study group member), and complete the application form (<1 minute). Afterwards, you will receive an email in order to confirm your subscription.

**Contact Information:**
Guillaume BÉRAUD.
University Hospital of Poitiers,
Poitiers, France
beraudguillaume@gmail.com

To apply for membership to ESGAP, you just need to fill in an application form.