Annual Report 2016

1. COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

1.1. Publications, guidelines and consensus documents:

- **SG publications:**
  
  
  
  
  
  - *Amoxicillin dosing recommendations are very different in European countries: a cross-sectional survey.* Pulcini C, on behalf of the ESGAP AMOXDOSE working group. *Clin Microbiol Infect.* 2016 [in press]

- **Contribution to publication:**
  
1.2. Presentations on behalf of the Study Group at scientific meetings:

- **ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam**:
  - ESGAP, ESCMID Networking Corner Poster ENC005
  - ePoster EV0669: Forgotten antibiotics: a follow-up inventory study in Australia, Canada, Europe and the United States.
  - ePoster EV674: Towards better antimicrobial stewardship: medical student preparedness on antibiotic use in Romania.
  - P1304: How prepared do Swedish medical students feel in relation to prudent antibiotic use?
  - P1305: Do medical students in France feel prepared to prescribe antibiotics responsibly?
  - E069 (oral presentation): Final results of the Student-PREPARE survey among European medical students: knowledge and skills for improved antimicrobial prescribing.

- **ASM Microbe, Boston 2016**
  - Oral presentation: Slovenian Undergraduate Training and Self-Assessments in the Infection Field - Student Prepare 2015.
  - Oral presentation: Do European Medical Students Feel Prepared to Prescribe Antibiotics Responsibly?

- **French Infectious Diseases congress** (Journées Nationales d’Infectiologie, Lille 2016)
  - Poster BU-10: Enquête nationale menée auprès des étudiants en médecine sur l’enseignement du bon usage des antibiotiques.

- **7th SEEC, Sibiu (Romania) 2016**
  - ESGAP invited session on Antimicrobial Stewardship (3 lectures) at the congress

- Antimicrobial Stewardship sessions, in collaboration with KLIMIK (Turkish Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases). October 6-8, 2016, Istanbul, Turkey.

1.3. Proposals for scientific & educational sessions at ECCMID:

- **ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam**
  - 1-hour Symposium: Antibiotic de-escalation (Pro-Con debate); Organizer(s): ESGAP (accepted)
  - 1-hour Symposium: Prevention and management of bloodstream infections: from here to where?; Organizer(s): ESGAP, ESGBIS, ESGNI (accepted)
  - 2-hour Educational Workshop: How to treat patients with Gram-negative infections in high-level resistance settings; Organizer(s): ESGAP, ESGNI (accepted)
  - 2-hour Educational Workshop: Undergraduate and postgraduate training and assessments in the infection field - a European discussion; Organizer(s): UEMS, TAE, ESGAP, ESGNI (accepted)
  - 2-hour Symposium: Affordable healthcare; Organizer(s): TAE, Parity Commission, ESGVH, ESGAP (accepted)
• ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 1-hour Symposium: Antimicrobial stewardship public campaigns: a good investment? (Pro-Con debate); Organizer(s): ESGAP (not selected)
• ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 1-hour Symposium: Ethical dilemmas in antibiotic treatment in the elderly; Organizer(s): ESGIE, ESGAP (not selected)
• ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 1-hour Symposium: IV-oral switch for antibiotics: are published criteria relevant? (Pro-Con debate); Organizer(s): ESGAP (not selected)
• ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 1-hour Symposium: National antibiotic guidelines: a key component of antibiotic stewardship (Pro-Con debate); Organizer(s): ESGAP (not selected)
• ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 2-hour Educational Workshop: Competencies and training in infection control and antimicrobial stewardship; Organizer(s): ESGAP, ESGNI, EUCIC (not selected)
• ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 2-hour Symposium: Antibacterial treatment - which is the optimal route of administration? Organizer(s): ESGAP, Royal College of Pathologists (UK) (not selected)
• ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 2-hour Symposium: Antimicrobial stewardship: the One-health approach; Organizer(s): ESGAP, ESGVM (not selected)
• ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 2-hour Symposium: Does antibiotic resistance drive Clostridium difficile?; Organizer(s): ESGCD, ESGAP (not selected)
• ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 2-hour Symposium: Education of healthcare professionals: a long way to go; Organizer(s): ESGAP, TAE (not selected)

1.4. Organization of scientific meetings and workshops outside ECCMID:

• Scientific event: Antibiotic therapy in practice. Madrid, Spain, 10 - 12 Nov 2016 (ESGAP); endorsement

1.5. Organization of educational activities outside ECCMID:

• PGEC: Antimicrobial Stewardship Course: A practical and integrated approach. Ijmuïden, the Netherlands, 07-08.04.2016; Organiser(s): ESGAP [Accepted]. 58 participants, global rating of the course: 3.34/4.00.

• PGEC: Antimicrobial Stewardship in Veterinary Medicine. Gothenburg, Sweden, 10-11.09.2016; Organiser(s): ESGVM, ESGAP, University of Copenhagen, University of Lisbon and University of Gothenburg, International Society for Companion Animal Infectious Diseases (ISCAID), European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine – Companion Animals (ECVIM-CA) [Accepted]

• PGEC: Individualized medicine in infectious diseases: a practical approach. Tübingen, Germany, 24.-25.06.2016; Organiser(s): EPASG, ESGAP, ESCMID Parity Commission [Accepted]

• PGEC: Antimicrobial Stewardship in the Era of Growing Antibiotic Resistance. Šibenik, Croatia, 19.-20.10.2016; Organiser(s): ESGAP, ESGARS, Croatian Society of Infectious Diseases (CSID), Croatian Society of Clinical Microbiology (CSCM) [Rejected]
1.6. (Funded) current (research) projects (especially collaborative projects):

- **ESGAP AntibioLegalMap survey 2016** *(data analysis ongoing)*
  The ESGAP AntibioLegalMap survey aims to explore the following topics, in order to get an international picture and to raise awareness on these issues: How are consultations performed by antibiotic experts organised in different countries? What is the legal liability (=responsibility) associated with antibiotic prescribing and advising? How might this liability impact on clinical decisions? Results of this survey are now in the process of analysis and will be published.

- **ESGAP/SPILF AB-Duration survey 2016** *(survey closed on the 1st December 2016)*
  ESGAP and SPILF (the French ID society) are performing the AB-Duration survey. They aim to explore current practices regarding durations of antibiotic treatments in common infections, in order to get an international picture on the topic. The duration of antibiotic therapy is indeed not completely solved for many infectious syndromes. The survey is intended for senior or trainee specialists in infectious diseases or clinical microbiology, clinical pharmacists, or any healthcare professional part of an antimicrobial stewardship team worldwide, provided that these professionals regularly give advice on antibiotic prescriptions (outside their own department).

- **ESGAP/ESGBIS Bloodstream infection survey** *(survey launched in December 2016)*
  ESGAP and ESGBIS aim to explore current practices regarding bloodstream infections’ management, in order to get an international picture on the topic. Guidelines on this topic are indeed scarce, and we anticipate wide variations in practices. The survey is intended for senior or trainee specialists in infectious diseases or clinical microbiology, clinical pharmacists, or any healthcare professional part of an antimicrobial stewardship team worldwide, provided that these professionals regularly give advice on antibiotic prescriptions (outside their own department).

- **ESCMID Study Groups’ competencies in antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship (ESCAPS)**
  aims at exploring a consensus for antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship competencies; led by ESGAP with contributions by ESGNI, ESGIAI, ESGIE, ESGCIP, ESGBIS, ESGCD. The ESCAPS were presented to the ESCMID EC at 2016 ECCMID in Amsterdam.

- **ESCMID generic competencies in antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship**
  Following on from the ESCAPS work described above, a working group within ESGAP has started a consensus study to confirm the relevance of these generic competencies for all prescribers (e.g. medical doctors, dentists, pharmacists, midwives, prescribing nurses) in European countries. This study has received ESCMID study group research funding, and will run during 2017, including two distance questionnaire rounds with a face-to-face discussion at ECCMID 2017.

- **ESGAP Open Virtual Learning Community (OVLC) and @ESGAP_ABS**
  ESGAP OVLC was launched in 2014 as an open-access, web-based resource targeted to providing information and tools to promote antimicrobial stewardship among healthcare professionals. The ESGAP/ESCMID Antimicrobial Stewardship Learning Community
(ESGAP-AS-LC) is intended to: a) provide a platform for showcasing, disseminating and highlighting good practice of antimicrobial use; b) promote opinion exchanges and debate regarding antimicrobial use, policy and stewardship; c) facilitate the access to common international platform where multilingual updated contents could be readily available for involved professionals. ESGAP-AS-LC has been structured in two main ways: the “static” web-pages and the weblog area. From June 2014, the OVLC has approx. 4 visits a day with peaks up to 40 corresponders to posts. The editors of the OVLC intend to increase the number of posts with active invitations to ESGAP members. In addition, Followers receive posts and pages automatically as e-mails. Currently OVLC has 87 e-mail subscribers. In 2016, 34 posts were published. Posts dealt with several hot topics ranging from comments on relevant topics in the field of antimicrobial stewardship to the announcement of educational activities. During 2016 ECCMID, daily posts summarizing presentations on antimicrobial stewardship were published. This temporary section is intended to be continued at 2017 ECCMID. The number of monthly visits is depicted in Figure 1. @ESGAP_ABS is ESGAP Official twitter account, which has 941 followers.

![Figure 1. Number of monthly visits to OVLC](image)

- **YPAR survey** (collaboration with TAE) (Young Doctors’ Perspectives on Antibiotic use and Resistance in Europe in 2015)
  The survey had 2,366 respondents, the results are currently being analysed, and preliminary results were submitted as an abstract to the ECCMID 2017.

- **Student-PREPARE**
  The ESGAP European survey on teaching of prudent antibiotic prescribing to final year medical students was completed in 2015, with over 7,000 students participating from all European countries. The data were analysed in 2016, with results presented at the European level and for several countries at ECCMID and ASM Microbe. Two manuscripts will be submitted in early 2017.

- **Vet-PREPARE**
  Oliver Dyar, Bojana Beović and Céline Pulcini have worked together with ESGVM to develop a gold standard of veterinary antimicrobial stewardship learning outcomes for veterinary students. This will be used as the basis for a joint ESGVM-ESGAP survey at veterinary schools across Europe in 2017, following the model from Student-PREPARE.
• **Legal Framework of Antimicrobial Stewardship in Hospitals survey (LEASH)**
  The questionnaire has just been sent to country representatives.

• **AB-Shortages survey**
  This survey will have 2 parts. The first part will be filled in by hospital pharmacists to describe the antibiotic shortages that occurred over the last years in Europe, while the second part will explore how physicians had to deal with shortages during the past year. The survey will be launched in 2017.

• **AMS survey**
  This survey will be filled in by ID physicians and/or clinical microbiologists and/or clinical pharmacists. It has been developed and tested in the Dutch hospital setting and its aim is to make an extensive inventory of the organisation / modus operandi of Antibiotic Stewardship programs throughout the European Union. The survey will be prepared together with all ESGAP EC members and conducted mid 2017.

1.7. **Other important activities:**

• Céline Pulcini, official ESGAP representative in EUCIC Stakeholder Committee

• ESGAP *Newsletter* (No 4), July 2016: Antimicrobial stewardship at ECCMID 2016, Oral presentations at **ECCMID** 2016, OVLC

• ESGAP-EUCIC Newsletter (No 5): an **EAAD**-themed newsletter was published, highlighting the activities of EUCIC and ESGAP members on European Antibiotic Awareness Day, as well as supporting campaign materials from ECDC and WHO.

• **MEDIA RELEASE** (ESGAP, EUCIC) November: AMR awareness day (EAAD, WAAW),

• From ESGAP, 0 and 25 members were doing 0 and 1624 research grant and ECCMID abstract reviews, respectively. Note: thematic topics for Research Grants have been viral/fungal/parasitic pathogens and infections.

• Tomislav Kostyanev attended a Stakeholder workshop - Meeting between Network for Evaluation of One Health (NEOH) consortium members and stakeholders from existing international institutions with an interest in One Health initiatives and evaluation of One Health or other interdisciplinary health endeavours, held in Brussels on February 16, 2016, on behalf of ESGAP.

• Bojana Beović attended two Members state and stakeholder meetings organized during the development of the EU guidelines on prudent use of antimicrobials in human medicine by the **European Commission and ECDC** in Luxembourg on May 25, and in Stockholm on September 16, 2016, on behalf of ESCMID/ESGAP.

• Oliver Dyar represented ESGAP and ESCMID at two meetings at **ECDC** concerning the updating of a toolkit for hospital prescribers for the EAAD.
ESGAP - MURIA collaboration: MURIA stands for Medicines Utilisation Research in Africa. MURIA and ESGAP have pledged to collaborate around effective policies to enhance the rational use of antibiotics in Africa with its many challenges. The collaboration will focus on the following subjects: (1) Exchange of information on best practices; present and past surveys; and on educational courses; (2) co-design “teach the teacher” courses on antibiotic stewardship in low resource countries; (3) Provide a window on European (university) research opportunities on antimicrobial stewardship in low resource countries.

ESGAP is planning to submit in January 2017 to WHO a plea to ensure access to old antibiotics part of the Essential Medicines List worldwide, including paediatric formulations, meaning that these antibiotics should be marketed and that prolonged shortages should be avoided. ESGAP has obtained support from several other professional societies, such as BSAC or SPILF.

The same plea was sent in November 2016 to DG Santé, to inform the 2nd EU Action Plan on AMR.

ESGAP is finalising a book (published by Elsevier) on Antimicrobial Stewardship, which will be available around April 2017.

ESGAP is planning collaborative projects with the International Society of Chemotherapy Working Group on Antimicrobial Stewardship (chair: Gabriel Levy-Hara).

ESGAP participated actively in the development of the EU/ECDC guidelines on prudent use of antimicrobials in human medicine. Bojana Beović represented ESCMID/ESGAP at the stakeholder meetings. ESGAP also participated in the public consultation with two major proposals: education of enough infectious diseases specialists in every EU country and inclusion of antimicrobial stewardship in the specialty training curricula for all clinical specialties.

The European Medical Student’s Association (EMSA) contacted ESGAP to explore potential ways for collaboration in the field of antimicrobial stewardship. Oliver Dyar and Tomislav Kostyanev met with ESCMID TAE representatives at ECCMID in Amsterdam to discuss a tripartite collaboration between ESGAP, ESCMID/TAE and medical students’ associations. After a TC meeting with EMSA EC representatives, it was agreed that ESGAP could be present at an EMSA General Assembly (potentially, Spring GA 2017 in Slovenia).

ESICM de-escalation working group, together with ESGCIP, ESGAP and EPASG study groups. ESGAP will contribute to the ESICM coordinated development of guidelines on De-escalation in the ICU setting.
2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES

@ ECCMID 2017 Vienna:

- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 1-hour Symposium: Resistance dynamics between the human and the veterinary sector; Organizer(s): EUCIC, ESGVM, ESGAP (accepted)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Educational Workshop: Improving antimicrobial use in different clinical syndromes - barriers, needs and indicators of success; Organizer(s): ESGAP (accepted)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Educational Workshop: Which mathematical models for antimicrobial resistance?; Organizer(s): ESGAP, ECDC (accepted)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna Meet-the-Expert Session: Strategies for de-escalation and optimized antibiotic therapy; Organizer(s): ESGAP (accepted)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Educational Workshop: Antibiotic stewardship recommendations and their impact on patient outcomes and antimicrobial resistance; Organizer(s): ESGAP, EPASG (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 1-hour Symposium: Big Pharma and their role in antimicrobial stewardship: truth or dare? (PRO/CON debate); Organizer(s): ESGAP (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 1-hour Symposium: Competencies and training in infection control and antimicrobial stewardship; Organizer(s): ESGAP, ESGNI (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 1-hour Symposium: Do we really need new antibiotics? (PRO/CON debate); Organizer(s): ESGAP (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Symposium: Antimicrobial stewardship: how to organize the team; Organizer(s): ESGAP, ESGIE (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Symposium: Computerized decision support systems for antibiotic stewardship; Organizer(s): ESGAP (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Symposium: Impact of gender differences in infectious diseases; Organizer(s): ESGAP, Parity Commission (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Symposium: National action plans - are they driving progress towards global antimicrobial stewardship?; Organizer(s): ESGAP (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna Meet-the-Expert Session: Antimicrobial administration in the ICU; Organizer(s): ESGAP (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna Meet-the-Expert Session: Antimicrobial stewardship in patients with cancer; Organizer(s): ESGAP (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna Meet-the-Expert Session: Ethics of antibiotics treatment in the elderly population; Organizer(s): ESGIE, ESGAP (not selected)

Outside ECCMID

- EORTC/ESCMID brainstorming meeting, 14 February 2017, Brussels, Belgium (with official representatives by EFISG, EPASG, ESGAP, ESGARS, ESGBIS, ESGCIP, ESGICH, ESGMD).

- A WHO-Europe / ESGAP educational course in antimicrobial stewardship “How to improve antibiotic use in my hospital: a practical introduction to antibiotic stewardship” is planned to be held in Skopje, FYR Macedonia, on January 25-26, 2017.


3. ADMINISTRATION

3.1. Number of current members:
131 SG members (as of end of December 2016)

3.2. Agenda for General Assembly/Business Meeting:

Agenda will be circulated before ECCMID 2017:

- Review of the activities in 2016
- Update of the research activities
- OVLC – the progress
- Planned activities

4. FINANCES

4.1. Revenues and expenses

Approved by Treasurer.

4.2. Balance

41783.05 EUR (as of end of December 2016)

These funds will probably be invested in educational and research activities (this topic will be discussed among ESGAP EC members).

1st December 2016
Author Céline Pulcini, ESGAP Secretary