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- Covid-19 Therapeutic Alert
- Update on Virtual Reality AMR training

Key Links

[Antimicrobial Resistance \(AMR\) - GOV.UK](#)

Contains:

- Strategic publications
- Clinical or technical guidance and publications
- Resources for healthcare professionals
- Resources for livestock professionals
- Research
- News

[TARGET Antibiotic Toolkit](#)

An antimicrobial stewardship toolkit and resources for Primary Care in the UK. Produced by The Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP).

[Start Smart & Then Focus](#)

An antimicrobial stewardship toolkit and resources for hospitals in England. Produced by PHE.

[Fingertips](#)

A repository of interactive profiles and indicators covering a wide range of health and wellbeing themes including antimicrobial stewardship and resistance. It is aimed at commissioners and strategic planners. Run by PHE.

[Dental Health](#)

"Antibiotics Don't Cure toothache" Stewardship is hosted by PHE and FGDRCS, BDA websites

If you have any questions regarding C&M AMR work or this Bulletin, please contact:

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COVID-19 MHRA Therapeutic Alert: 28th January 2021

[Antimicrobials \(azithromycin and doxycycline\) Not Beneficial in the Management of COVID-19 \(SARS-CoV-2\) Positive Patients](#)

Clinical trials have concluded that there is no clinically meaningful benefit of administering either azithromycin or doxycycline to patients being treated at home in the early stages of COVID-19.

Antimicrobials should NOT be used in the primary management of COVID-19 infection unless there are other licensed indications for which their use remains appropriate.

Continue to refer to [NICE COVID-19 rapid guideline \(NG165\)](#): *managing suspected or confirmed pneumonia in adults in the community* to help differentiate between viral and bacterial pneumonia.

Inappropriate antibiotic use may reduce their availability. In addition, indiscriminate use may lead to *Clostridioides difficile* infection and antimicrobial resistance.

Update: Virtual Reality AMR Training

Virtual reality (VR) training has been developed as part of the AMR board work stream, focusing on 5 areas of infection commonly seen in the primary care setting: uncomplicated UTI, recurrent UTI, sore throat, cough and sepsis.

The VR headsets have now been deployed in three practices across the Cheshire and Merseyside area. Information regarding further roll out will be available in due course. Please contact the relevant area leads (below) if you would like to access the equipment.

The downloadable video versions can be accessed as a collection [here](#) or alternatively via the following website <http://qrco.de/amrvideos>. The password 'AMR2020' can be used to access content via either platform.

New and Recent Publications

[Does methenamine hippurate decrease urinary tract symptoms in community adult women: a systematic review and meta-analysis](#)

A systematic review of randomised controlled trials (RCTs) of community adult women with a history of recurrent UTIs using methenamine hippurate (hippurate) as treatment or prophylaxis has recently concluded that there is no sufficient evidence to be certain of benefit for hippurate. Hippurate is not currently recommended as a treatment option in patients with recurrent UTI.

[Infection-related complications after common infection in association with new antibiotic prescribing in primary care: retrospective cohort study using linked electronic health records](#)

A UK study concluded that there is an association between lower levels of antibiotic prescribing in primary care with resulting higher infection-related hospital admissions. Indiscriminately reducing antibiotic prescribing may lead to harm. Greater focus is therefore needed to optimise antibiotic use by reducing inappropriate antibiotic prescribing but also better targeting of antibiotics to patients at high risk of infection-related complications.

Local Area Medicines Management AMR leads

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Cheshire and Merseyside AMR Board

Next C&M AMR Board meeting: Tuesday 16th March 2021, 15:30-17:00, MS Teams