

Special Issue

Global Inequities and Supply Challenges in Access to Antibiotics

Message from the Guest Editors

Antibiotics are essential medical tools, yet their global availability is increasingly uncertain. In recent years, significant shortages of widely used antibiotics have been reported across high- and low-income countries, exposing weaknesses in manufacturing, supply chains, and market incentives. Antibiotics are among the drug classes most affected. At the same time, inequities in access persist: some regions face overuse, while others lack basic treatments, leaving common infections without effective therapy. These disparities threaten patient outcomes and contribute to antimicrobial resistance through the use of substandard or inappropriate alternatives. This Special Issue examines the challenge of ensuring equitable and sustainable access to essential antibiotics. We welcome manuscripts on the causes, consequences, and solutions to shortages, including analyses of economic drivers, policy frameworks, supply networks, and health system responses. Contributions presenting regional experiences, strategies to strengthen antibiotic availability, and work exploring links between shortages and antimicrobial resistance are encouraged.

Guest Editors

Dr. Mária Gajdács

Department of Public Health, Albert Szent-Györgyi Faculty of Medicine, University of Szeged, 6720 Szeged, Hungary

Dr. Maarten Lambert

Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Clinical Pharmacology, Utrecht Institute for Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Science, Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands

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Antibiotics
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
antibiotics@mdpi.com

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

There are very few fields that attract as much attention as scientific endeavor related to antibiotic discovery, use and preservation. The public, patients, scientists, clinicians, policy-makers, NGOs, governments, and supra-governmental organizations are all focusing intensively on it: all are concerned that we use our existing agents more effectively, and develop and evaluate new interventions in time to face emerging challenges for the benefit of present and future generations. We need every discipline to contribute and collaborate: molecular, microbiological, clinical, epidemiological, geographic, economic, social scientific and policy disciplines are all key. *Antibiotics* is a nimble, inclusive and rigorous indexed journal as an enabling platform for all who can contribute to solving the greatest broad concerns of the modern world.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Nicholas Dixon
School of Chemistry and Molecular Bioscience, University of
Wollongong, Wollongong, NSW 2522, Australia

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