

Special Issue

Clinical Perspective on Antibiotic Resistance, Collaboration among Stakeholders

Message from the Guest Editor

Antibiotic resistance (ABR) is a hierarchical challenge of global health, which has long been recognized by international health agencies. Although the clinical implications of healthcare-associated infections due to multidrug-resistant pathogens remain unclear, they are highly heterogeneous in their etiology and clinical presentations. In the United States for example, VRE, carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter* species, and MDR *P. aeruginosa* are identified almost exclusively among patients with considerable healthcare exposure, and such resistance exposure appears to be rarely acquired in the community. The role of clinical microbiology labs is pivotal in establishing close working relationships with healthcare practitioners developing robust guidelines for the identification of resistant genes from Gram-positive and Gram-negative pathogens as well as the evaluation of patients with a history of resistance to single or multiple antibiotics in order to improve clinical outcomes.

Keywords: global health; antibiotic resistance; clinically important resistance genes; role of clinical microbiology labs; knowledge-based applications minimizing ABR

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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.

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