

# Ireland



Ireland is represented in JPIAMR by the Health Research Board, the nation's lead agency responsible for supporting and funding health research, information and evidence. Ireland has a good track record in addressing antimicrobial resistance with prevention and control of health care associated infections (HCAIs) and AMR being a significant long-standing patient safety and public health priority for the Irish Department of Health.

## National AMR Action Plans

- [iNAP Ireland National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance 2017-2020](#)
- Ireland's first [One Health Report on Antimicrobial Resistance](#), 2016, published January 2019

## National AMR research calls

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have recently awarded two new AMR projects:

- A large-scale project entitled '*PIER: Public health Impact of Exposure to antibiotic Resistance in coastal waters*'. This is being led by Dr Dearbhaile Morris from NUIG and was awarded through the EPA's 2018 Open Call. A short summary of this project and funding awarded can be found [here](#).
- A Scholarship project entitled '*Survival of mobile antibiotic resistance in water*'. The supervisor for this Scholarship is Dr Fiona Walsh from Maynooth University and the Scholarship was awarded through the EPA's 50:50 Co-funded Scholarship Scheme with Third Level Institutions. A short summary of this project and funding awarded can be found [here](#).

## National AMR research programs

- A National Interdepartmental AMR Consultative Committee was set up in 2014 between the Department of Health and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The objective was to raise public and professional awareness of the threat of AMR to both public and animal health, addressing the repercussions for human health, agriculture, food industry and environment.
- Another initiative which the Health Services Executive has established in Irish acute public hospitals is good systems for recording and benchmarking antimicrobial prescribing, and for recording and comparing antimicrobial resistance rates for serious infections with other European countries. Ireland also has an established national system for reporting on antibiotic consumption in the community.
- Ireland has contributed to reporting to the European Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System since 1999 and through its membership of the World Health Organisation, is part of the international effort aimed at tackling the global public health treat of AMR.

## Activities on AMR actions at national level

- 1st Annual Scientific Meeting of the One Health European Joint Programme on Food-Borne Zoonoses, antimicrobial Resistance and Emerging Threats; Dublin, May 22nd-24th 2019.
- *Our Environment, Our Health: One Health" Conference NUI Galway, 28th September 2018*. Kay Duggan-Walls, Management Board Member made a presentation on JPIAMR
- EPA also assisted with a [One Health event](#) held in the Convention Centre on 20<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018. The event was held to mark World Antibiotic Awareness Week and was targeted mainly at healthcare and veterinary professionals.

## IRELAND

- European Commission, European Centre for Disease and Prevention Control One Health AMR Country Visit took place in Ireland on 7-11 October 2019. See report <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/antimicrobial-resistance-one-health-ireland-country-visit.pdf>
- Work ongoing on second action plan - [iNAP Ireland National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance 2017-2020](#)
- Publication of National healthcare quality reporting system annual report 2019. Section on Healthcare Associated infections and antibiotic consumption <https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/5fd4f6-national-healthcare-quality-reporting-system-reports/?referrer=/blog/publications/national-healthcare-quality-reporting-system-annual-report-2017/>
- Workshop on Tackling AMR on the Island of Ireland took place on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Dame Sally Davis Chief Scientific Adviser at the UK Department of Health gave the keynote speech. The event was organised by the British Embassy in Ireland <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/chief-medical-officers-visit-delivers-commitment-to-north-south-collaboration-on-anti-microbial-resistance>.
- Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine & Irish Farmers Journal Joint One Health Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Awareness Campaign was launched 2019/2020