



AMR in the Real World

Announcements of Opportunity

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Overview



- AMR in the Real World is a £6.5m programme under theme 3 of the AMR Cross-Council Initiative.
- This programme is co-funded by NERC, BBSRC and MRC with potential co-funding from AHRC.
- This programme will support two types of award:
 - larger Research Grants
 - smaller, more focussed Pump Priming Grants

Programme scope



- Aim: a greater understanding of the role of the outdoor environment and host microbiome in influencing the evolution, acquisition and spread of antimicrobial resistance, and as a reservoir for resistance.
- In scope:
 - antibacterials and resistant bacteria/bacterial resistance genes (of clinical and/or veterinary importance)
 - agricultural, aquaculture, wastewater and natural environments (freshwater, marine, soil, air, etc. and their interfaces), human and animal host microbiomes (gut, skin, respiratory, oral, etc.)
 - elements relating to the way people/human communities interact with the environment, animals and each other
- Out of scope:
 - antibacterial resistance in plant pathogens
 - the indoor environment (e.g. looking at surfaces in hospitals)

Scientific objectives



- 2 Work Packages – applicants can work on one or both.
- WP1: understanding the acquisition, spread and evolution of AMR **in the environment** and how this affects exposure risks for humans/animals.
- Three issues:
 1. Where are the antibacterials coming from, where are they and what happens to them?
 2. Where are the resistant bacteria/genes and how are they transferred.
 3. The processes and factors that control the selection of AMR genes.
- An exploration of how this can inform AMR policy and management strategies. E.g:
 - Predict the exposure risk to humans/animals and the corresponding implications for health and how the presence of humans/animals plays a role in the system.
 - Potential interventions and mitigation strategies to reduce emergence/transmission/exposure risk.

Scientific objectives



- WP2: understanding of the acquisition, spread and evolution of AMR **in the host microbiome** (human/animal)
 - interactions between resistant bacteria and the wider microbial community in the host
 - drivers of the emergence, evolution and co-selection of resistance
 - persistence/retention of resistance
 - how resistance genes are transferred within the microbiome, including pathogenic and commensal bacteria
 - the influence of the outdoor environment on these and the interaction between the host and the environment
- **Applicants should identify whether the presence of resistant bacteria or resistance genes has implications for pathogens of clinical and/or veterinary importance.**

Research Grants



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- **Outline call closes 6 October 2015**
 - £1.5m (100% FEC)
 - Start by 1 May 2016 and end by 31 March 2020
 - Requirement for interdisciplinarity and partnerships
 - Outlines on email
 - Assessment panel
 - Full proposals will be invited to submit through JeS
 - **Full call closes 3 December 2015**
 - Peer review
 - Moderating panel

Pump Priming Grants



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- **Call closes 3 December 2015**
 - £200k (100% FEC) for 12-36 months
 - Start by 1 May 2016
 - Narrower focus than the Research Grants
 - High risk/high reward, novel, innovative, exploratory
 - Encouraging interdisciplinarity and partnerships, where appropriate
 - Early career researchers welcome
 - Application through JeS
 - Assessment panel

Overall timetable



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- Town Meeting – 11 September 2015
 - Outline Research Grants call closes – 6 October 2015
 - Outline Research Grants panel – October 2015
 - Full Research Grants and Pump Priming Grants calls close – 3 December 2015
 - Panel – March 2016
 - Grants start – May 2016

Questions?



- Quick questions
- More talks to follow
- Initial Q&A session with funders at 11.30
- Panel Q&A at 15.30
- One to one surgery sessions with funders at 16.05