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12 July 2019

By email

Dear colleagues

**Re: Gram-negative Bloodstream Infection (GNBSI) ambition**

We are writing to advise you of some important information and changes in relation to the GNBSI ambition.

You will be aware that the [UK five year action plan for antimicrobial resistance 2019-24](#) was published in February this year. The plan supports the UK 20-year vision for antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Tackling AMR is a global concern for human health and working together is essential to ensure antibiotics remain effective so we can continue to be able to treat our patients where there is a clinical need.

Preventing infection is a key factor in achieving the aims of the next five years and the plan has a strong focus on reducing and preventing infection and the way that we use and monitor antibiotic usage.

In 2016, the Department of Health and Social Care set an ambition for England to halve the number of healthcare associated GNBSI by March 2021.

Recognising this is a complex challenge with more than 50% of infections occurring in people outside of hospital settings, the date for achievement of this goal has been revised to March 2024 with a 25% reduction by March 2021.

Achieving this ambition will require strategic executive oversight and leadership to implement a cross system agenda that is collaborative and inclusive of both health and social care colleagues.

Given the complexity and breadth of the action plan, we are asking that each sustainability and transformation partnership (STP) or integrated care systems (ICS) nominates a senior responsible officer (SRO). This role will oversee the implementation and delivery of a systemwide AMR strategy to drive improvement



and have a robust governance and assurance framework for the system to support improvement.

To support the development of AMR plans across health systems, we will be hosting a series of events for system leaders during the autumn (see table below for the date of your regional event). Booking details will be sent to you shortly but we ask that you hold the date in your diaries.

Region	Date
North East and Yorkshire	12 September 2019
North West	2 October 2019
South West	7 November 2019
South East	12 November 2019
Midlands	19 November 2019
East of England	19 November 2019
London	26 November 2019

In addition, to assist you in determining the ask of the ambition we will be publishing year-on-year reduction ambition measures for CCGs and acute providers. We will cascade this via the STP bulletin and via your nominated AMR SRO.

Please can you identify the individual in your STP or ICS who the designated SRO for the AMR strategy will be and advise via [nhsi.improveipc@nhs.net](mailto:nhsi.improveipc@nhs.net) by 26 July 2019. We will then ensure that we provide the necessary support to help develop these important roles.

Yours faithfully,



**Ruth May**  
Chief Nursing Officer, England



**Professor Stephen Powis**  
NHS Medical Director, England