MAKING HYGIENE MATTER The Role of Hygiene in Mitigating Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

AMR: A GLOBAL PROBLEM



In 2019, an estimated 4.95 million deaths were associated with AMR¹

AMR is now considered the **fourth** deadliest pandemic of the 20th and 21st centuries, following Spanish flu, HIV, AIDS and COVID-19²⁻⁵



The highest burden of AMR occurs in low- and middleincome countries, with children particularly at risk

HOW CAN HYGIENE MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



Good hygiene practices in the community have been shown to reduce the risk of infection, leading to a **30% reduction** in the need for antibiotics⁶



Handwashing with soap could protect about 1 out of every **3 young children who get sick** with diarrhoea and almost 1 out of 5 young children with respiratory infections, both of which are commonly treated with antibiotics⁷

Driving hygiene-related behavioural change requires the collective efforts of stakeholders from all levels of society.

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- 4. World Health Organization. HIV: Fact Sheet. November 2022. Available at: www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/ Centres for Disease Control and Prevention: Show Me the Science – Why Wash Your Hands?. September 2020. detail/hiv-aids (Accessed: October 2022). Available at: www.cdc.gov/handwashing/why-handwashing.html#:^:text=Handwashing%20with%20soap%20 Worldometer. Coronavirus Statistics. Available at: www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/ (Accessed: October 2022). could%20protect,soap%20to%20wash%20their%20hands (Accessed March 2023).
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Join the GHC in driving positive worldwide behavioural change in hygiene practices to reduce the burden of common infectious diseases and AMR and protect against future pandemics.



A CALL FOR CHANGE



Only 11 of 77 AMR national action plans (NAPs) include Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in community settings⁸



NAPs on AMR should include WASH recommendations for home and community settings. Recommendations should include infection prevention and control methods, such as targeted surface cleaning and handwashing with soap and water

Read the full report at: www.hygienecouncil.org/resources/four-pillars-for-change



