

Malaysian Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance

Progress Report & Plan for 2018



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This was discussed during the Technical Working Group, National Antimicrobial Resistance Committee meeting on 7 December 2017 chaired by Dr Kamaruzaman.

Objective 4 of the Malaysian Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, which is to optimise the use of antimicrobial medicines in human and animal health, emphasises on the extension of reduction in national human consumption of antibiotics and the consumption of antibiotics used in food production as the objective's potential measure of effectiveness.

There are seven strategies manifested in realising the objective:

Strategy 1: Ensure activities of distribution, prescription and dispensing of antimicrobials are in accordance with national legislation.

Strategy 2: Ensure marketing authorisation is given only to antimicrobial agents that are quality-assured, safe and efficacious.

Strategy 3: Regular review of the National Essential Medicines Lists and National Antibiotic Guideline to ensure purchasing and prescribing of antimicrobial medicines are based on current recommendations.

Strategy 4: Strengthening of laboratory capacity for efficient identification of pathogens and their antimicrobial susceptibility.

Strategy 5: Provision of stewardship programme in healthcare facilities.

Strategy 6: Introduction of incentives to optimise appropriate use of antimicrobial agents.

Strategy 7: Development of policies on the use of antimicrobial agents in terrestrial and aquatic animals including reduction in nontherapeutic use of antimicrobial medicines in animal health.

Statistically, there were 25 actions that have been planned for the year 2017 to 2020, wherein six out of it were planned to be implemented in 2017. To date, five actions were successfully implemented in 2017 in which two actions have been completed while another three actions have been initiated but not yet completed.

Actions Planned for Implementation in 2018

i. Strategy 1: Ensure activities of distribution, prescription and dispensing of antimicrobials are in accordance with national legislation.

There are two actions that have been proposed under this strategy. First is regular inspections/ audits on the sale of antimicrobial agents in community pharmacies. Second is on the regulation and conditions under the existing licensing regulation which can be realised in three further courses of action; farm licensing to be used in Antimicrobial Usage (AMU) report as a condition to renew license (State Enactment), to propose regulation on the prescription of antimicrobials in animal feed (Section 19 Animal Feed Act 2009) and to propose guidelines for antimicrobial use in aquaculture premises under the current regulation.

Target Group

1st action: Community pharmacists.

2nd action: Licensed farm, Feed miller and Home mixer.

i. Strategy 3: Regular review of the National Essential Medicines Lists and National Antibiotic Guideline to ensure purchasing and prescribing of antimicrobial medicines are based on current recommendations.

The action is on the National Essential Medicines List.

Target Group

Healthcare practitioners.

i. Strategy 5: Provision of stewardship programme in healthcare facilities.

The action is on the development of AMS policies in public healthcare facilities.

Target Group

MOH hospitals, health clinics and medical institutions.

i. Strategy 6: Introduction of incentives to optimise appropriate use of antimicrobial agents.

The action is on the market access for products from farm with MyGAP certification.

Target Group

Farmers.

i. Strategy 7: Development of policies on the use of antimicrobial agents in terrestrial and aquatic animals including reduction in non-therapeutic use of antimicrobial medicines in animal health.

There are three actions that have been proposed under this category. The first action is on the