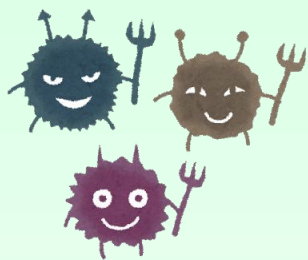


Health Information Autumn Edition

~Measures against antimicrobial resistance (AMR)~

Do you know about AMR?



Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is becoming a big problem throughout the world, while the development of new antimicrobials has steadily declined. These factors are making it harder to treat infectious diseases.



We should optimize the use of antimicrobial agents to slow the emergence of antimicrobial resistance, and ensure that existing antimicrobial agents can be used for as long as possible.

Trends in the international community and measures against AMR in Japan.

In May 2015, the World Health Organization (WHO) endorsed the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, and in April 2016 the National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance was made up in Japan. It presents priorities to be implemented over the next five years (2016-2020) to slow the emergence of AMR as well as preventing its spread.

Use of antimicrobials in animal husbandry is also a cause of antimicrobial resistance. Moreover, antimicrobial-resistant bacteria and antibiotics are being detected in the environment, such as rivers. Therefore, measures to counter AMR must be tackled worldwide, considering livestock and the environment as well as human health. This is called “One Health approach”.

What we can do against AMR.

1. Correct knowledge about antimicrobials



- **Antibiotics do not work against colds.**
Antibiotics are medicines that treat bacterial infections. They do not cure infections caused by viruses, such as the common cold or flu.
- **Take antimicrobials as directed by your doctor.**
Inappropriate use of antimicrobials may result in the emergence of AMR.

2. Common infection control



- **Hand-washing is an extremely effective method of preventing the spread of infections.**
- **We should get vaccinations and keep them up to date as some infections can be prevented by vaccines.**

Related links;

AMR Clinical Reference Center (Japanese only)

