

AMR Hub Employee Meet & Greet: Latin America and the Caribbean Meeting Report

Online (Zoom), Wednesday, October 25, 2023 (12:00-1:30 pm, GMT-3)

The “AMR Hub Collaborators Meet & Greet Event: LAC” held on October 25, 2023, brought together TGHN **Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)** collaborators from several countries in **Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)**. Like previous events in Africa and Asia, the meeting was designed to promote networking, knowledge sharing and collaborative discussions with a focus on addressing the challenges posed by AMR in LAC. All members of the TGHN AMR Hub ['Collaborator Map'](#) based in LAC were invited to participate.

Participants

A total of 13 individuals participated in the event, including 9 members of AMR LAC, 2 coordinators of the AMR Hub and 1 coordinator of Global Research Nurses LAC. Countries represented by AMR LAC members included Argentina (3), Brazil (3), Mexico (2), and the Dominican Republic (1). Collaborators with a wide range of professional backgrounds and experiences contributed to the open discussion, including professionals from academia, research, nursing and medicine. Areas of research represented included clinical, epidemiology, infectious diseases, antimicrobial stewardship, surveillance, education, and public health.

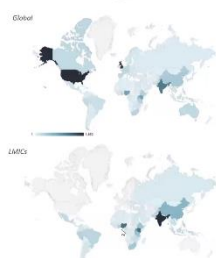


Agenda Description

The session began with a welcome and general introduction to the meeting moderated by Lic. Daniela Moraes Morelli, Regional Coordinator of TGHN Global Research Nurses LAC; followed by the brief presentation by the AMR Hub team, first Ohemu Godwin Pius, specialist in microbiology technology and then Dr. Ryan Walker coordinator of the TGHN AMR Hub. The latter gave a general presentation about the AMR Hub and also about the results of previous Meet and Greet events with members from Africa and Asia, held in August and September, respectively.

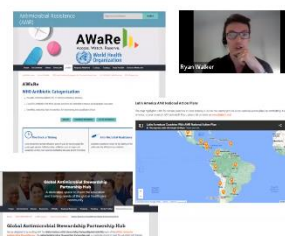
Afterwards, an exchange of ideas took place, in which participants were encouraged to introduce themselves, share their current projects and also their perspectives on research on AMR in the LAC region. In particular, they were encouraged to highlight other areas of research that they considered relevant to addressing the threat that AMR poses in the region. Participants were encouraged to share their opinions about the challenges encountered in their lines of research, the resources and measures that could contribute to overcoming these obstacles, and to propose collaborative solutions to minimize the gaps identified in the research.

Knowledge Hub



- 9,322 members globally (July 2023)
- Top 10 Countries: UK, USA, India, Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, China, Ghana, Tanzania
- Top 10 Low and Middle-Income Countries: India, Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, China, Ghana, Tanzania, South Africa, Malawi

Past/Current Knowledge Hub Activities



- Development of dedicated platforms to support dissemination and uptake of partner resources.
- Regional AMR National Action Plan (NAP) Map research resource, to track existing NAPs and facilitate access for Hub members.
- Continued expansion of collaborative networks and list of partner organisations.
- Biweekly scoping and upload of relevant literature, training resources, funding calls, research opportunities etc.
- Tackling Antimicrobial Resistance Hybrid Symposium (Nov 2022)

Discussion results

The results of the LAC meeting discussion revolved around the following topics and challenges related to AMR:

Training and education	Participants highlighted and deepened the importance of increasing training opportunities in the field of AMR research. The need to direct specific efforts towards the training of students , as well as health professionals , with special emphasis on the management and administration of antimicrobials , was highlighted.
Collaboration and Networks	The importance of promoting more robust collaboration, both at local and regional levels, to effectively address AMR was highlighted. Participants expressed that the formation of working groups could be a strategy to help consolidate knowledge and jointly address common challenges related to AMR.
Antimicrobial Stewardship	Strengthening Antimicrobial Stewardship in the region was highlighted as essential. Combating inappropriate prescribing , strengthening research and education focused specifically on administration to ensure prudent and efficient use of antimicrobials were recognized as vital steps , as well as reducing the risks associated with the misuse of these medicines in all areas of healthcare.
AMR Surveillance Technology	The need to intensify AMR surveillance was highlighted as an area of shared interest and the importance of integrating technologies to strengthen surveillance was highlighted, including the use of innovative digital health tools for collection, analysis and interpretation of data related to AMR.

Next steps

To effectively address the various issues identified during the meeting, the possibility of creating cross-cutting working groups dedicated to specifically addressing these concerns was mentioned. This topic will be discussed by the AMR Hub team with a view to launch during World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW) in November 2023. Participants are encouraged to participate in this event, promoting collaborative research and exchange of knowledge.

The meeting concluded with a commitment to continually strengthen AMR's network of collaborators in Latin America and the Caribbean, seeking funding opportunities and developing specific interventions and strategies to address the challenges identified during the event.