Driving reinvestment in R&D for antibiotics and advocating their responsible use

The Problem
Antimicrobial resistance is a global human and economic burden that is increasing annually, while the development of new antibiotics continues to lag behind the need for new antibacterial drugs. Applied to antibiotics, a simple sales-based economic model contradicts the public health mandate to reduce their consumption in order to preserve their efficacy. Alternative models that can create incentives for the discovery and development of novel antibiotics and yet reconcile these incentives with responsible antibiotic use and access for those in need are long overdue.

The Project
DRIVE-AB is a public-private consortium funded by the EU Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) with in-kind support from partners of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) and is composed of 16 public and 7 private partners from 12 countries. The project is established to search and provide answers to the following areas that are critical to the future success of healthcare globally:

- Reducing antimicrobial resistance through responsible antibiotic use
- Identifying new economic models to incentivise the discovery and development of new novel antibiotics
- Engaging with all stakeholder groups during the process
- Recommending to governments and policy-makers new economic models that stimulate innovation, responsible use and global access of novel antibiotics to meet public health need

The Process
6 work packages will work together to produce these models in a stepwise, interconnected process and present them to appropriate decision-makers.

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