

DRIVE-AB

RE-INVESTMENT
IN R&D AND RESPONSIBLE
ANTIBIOTIC USE

16 November 2015

PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO ANYONE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED



Don't miss a beat - follow us on Twitter at [@DRIVE_AB](https://twitter.com/DRIVE_AB).

Want to get involved? Just go to our website and click "[Stakeholder Engagement](#)" to find out all you need to know about getting involved with the project!

What is DRIVE-AB?

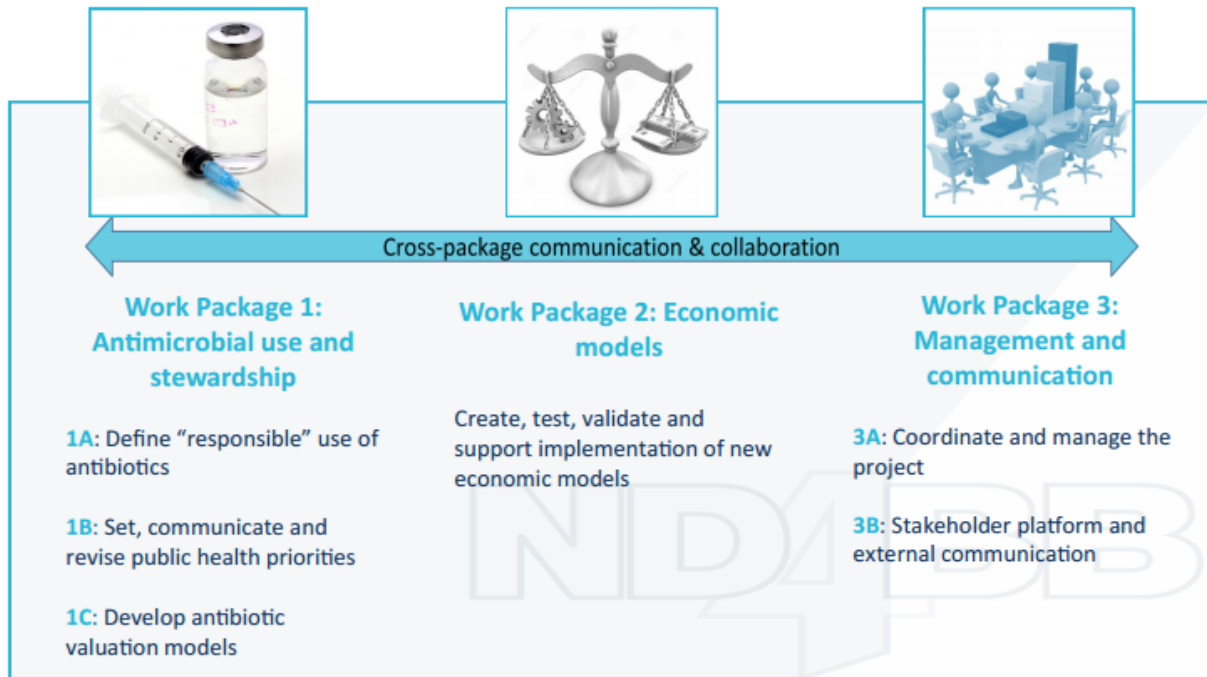
DRIVE-AB is a public-private consortium funded by the EU Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) and is composed of **16 public and 7 private partners from 12 countries**.

DRIVE-AB is addressing the growing threat of antibiotic resistance. The development of new drugs to treat drug-resistant bacterial infections is moving slowly; we need new economic models that will **stimulate the discovery and development of new antibiotics while ensuring responsible use and access**. This is where DRIVE-AB comes in.

Six teams (work packages) are working together over this three year project (2014-2017), along with the input of a wide variety of stakeholders, to produce these models in a stepwise process and will present them to appropriate decision-makers.

To see an overview of DRIVE-AB **activities and timeline**, [click here](#).

To view the complete DRIVE-AB **information package**, please [click here](#).



Welcome to the first public DRIVE-AB Newsletter

Welcome to the first official DRIVE-AB public newsletter. Since October 1, 2014, the partners and participants of the DRIVE-AB project have been working hard to develop the foundations for the project outputs. We are delighted to see that we have collectively made a strong and positive start. The project has received significant attention this year in scientific journals such as *Nature Drug Discovery*, *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy*, *Health Affairs*, and *Lancet Infectious Diseases*, and we are continuing to work with other organizations such as the *World Health Organization*, the *CDC*, *ECDC*, *TATFAR* and the *Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative*. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with stakeholders over the next two years as we work towards finding possible solutions to the problems facing antibiotic discovery and development.

This quarterly newsletter will give you an overview of the project activities and accomplishments over the next two years.

Kind Regards,



Stephan Harbarth
DRIVE-AB Project Coordinator
Academic Lead



Judith Hackett
DRIVE-AB Project Coordinator
EFPIA Lead

Happy First Birthday, DRIVE-AB!

DRIVE-AB recently celebrated its first birthday by holding a **General Assembly meeting** for all partners and participants in Uppsala, Sweden on 15-16 October, 2015. The event facilitated discussions on the progress so far, the challenges, and the next steps for the project.

Celebrating Antibiotic Awareness Day and World Antibiotic Awareness Week!

The 18th of November is **European Antibiotic Awareness Day**! It's that time of year when people and organizations come together to raise awareness about the growing public health threat that is antibiotic resistance. This year, the whole world is taking part in **World Antibiotic Awareness Day**.



Here are just a few of the activities that DRIVE-AB members are involved in to support Antibiotic Awareness Week:

THE LANCET

The Lancet, in collaboration with Imperial College London and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, is publishing a new series titled: **"Antimicrobials: sustainable access and effectiveness"**. It will be launched at a symposium at Imperial College in London on Global Antibiotic Awareness Day, 18 November.

THE INDEPENDENT

The British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy is publishing a series of editorials which will be circulated in *The Independent* UK on 18 November, as well as featured as an **online campaign**.



Oxford Journals and the Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy have put together a **list of articles that are relevant to Antibiotic Awareness Week** and antibiotic resistance.



Antibiotic Action is releasing a **series of informative posters and fact sheets for the public about the use of antibiotics in modern medicine**.

What have we been up to this year?

DRIVE-AB has been very active in engaging with stakeholders and initiatives from around the world, attending and organizing meetings at **Capitol Hill, USA**, the **European Congress on Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases in Denmark**, and with the **Transatlantic Taskforce on Antimicrobial Resistance in Luxembourg**, among others.

Please click here for a full list of DRIVE-AB meetings and events.

Project updates by each work package

For a full breakdown of the work packages and their activities, [please check out our website](#).

Responsible use of antibiotics, new and old

The team has made great progress with research activities, stakeholder involvement and external communication over the past year. Following robust evidence reviews and surveys, they are currently in discussions with stakeholders to agree on a standardized definition of “responsible antibiotic use” as well as relevant metrics. Stakeholders include members of the medical community, global public health, research and development industries, and payers and policy makers.

To find out more about these activities, or if you would like to provide your valuable feedback as a stakeholder, please see [Work Package 1A's stakeholder engagement page](#).

Setting, communicating and revising public health priorities

The team has successfully gathered information from reviews and databases around the world to develop its first mathematical model, which examines the spread of multidrug resistant organisms within hospitals. This model is now being tested, while work on further models of spread between hospitals and regions is ongoing. The team is also working towards determining the clinical impact of AMR.

To find out more about these activities, or if you would like to provide your valuable feedback as a stakeholder, please see [Work Package 1B's stakeholder engagement page](#).

Antibiotic Evaluation

The team's first paper, [“Potential burden of antibiotic resistance on surgeries and cancer chemotherapy antibiotic prophylaxis in the United States”](#) has been published in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*, and work on other publications is ongoing. These publications will provide a framework for valuing antibiotics, quantify the impact of resistance, value typologies of antibiotics, and ultimately provide recommendations for health technology assessment guidelines.

For more detailed information on the group's progress and to find out how you can get involved, please see [Work Package 1C's stakeholder engagement page](#).

Creation and testing of new economic models

The team responsible for creating new economic models to incentivise both research and development of new antibiotics as well as responsible use has created a solid foundation upon which to build these models. They have developed parameters for the models, documented potential risks, and worked with stakeholders such as the [UK Antimicrobial Resistance Review](#) and the [Antimicrobial Innovation Alliance](#) to discuss global perspectives on how to stimulate development of the antimicrobial pipeline.

For more detailed information on the group's progress and to find out how you can get involved, please see [Work Package 2's stakeholder engagement page](#).

Project management and governance, communication and stakeholder engagement

The teams have been busy this year ensuring that project activities move forward according to plans and timelines. They are also ensuring that there is effective communication between work

packages and between the project and relevant organisations, that DRIVE-AB is well represented in the media, and that appropriate stakeholders are being engaged to develop robust, implementable outputs.

For more detailed information on the group's progress, please see the [DRIVE-AB website](#).

Stakeholder platform and external communication

This team is currently involved in the planning of various upcoming meetings and events, such as the June 2016 midterm conference in Amsterdam. They have also developed a two-page [overview of the DRIVE-AB project](#), which is available in postcard form for easy dissemination, as well as a new '[Stakeholder Engagement](#)' tab on the website to facilitate stakeholder engagement.

For more detailed information on the group's progress, please see the [DRIVE-AB website](#).

Want to find out more?

Should you wish to receive more detailed information, subscribe to the newsletter, nominate a stakeholder or update us on your activities as relevant to the project, please contact [Victoria Wells, DRIVE-AB Communications Officer](#).

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