

INFLUENZA Debates

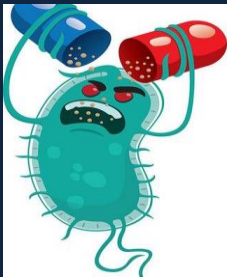
Debate 1 : Overcoming vaccine hesitancy among HCWs....

An Option or a Must?



Debate 2 : A new horizon for Seasonal Influenza vaccination, a great contributor to combating

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) ?



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Q1 Do you think vaccination of HCWs (Doctors & Nurses) against Influenza is:

- a- a must
- b- highly recommended
- c- recommended
- d- optional in face of epidemics/pandemics

Q2 What percent in your country are HCWs vaccinated against Influenza ?

- a- < 5%
- b- 20-30%
- c- 40-50%
- d- > 70%
- e- I don't know




Q3 Who do you think among HCWs are main target for seasonal Influenza vaccine?

- a- Nurses
- b- Surgeons
- c- Pediatricians
- d- Internists
- e- HCWs in Elderly Health care Facilities
- f- all of the above

HCWs in our region have very low coverage rates!

WHY is the problem ?

HOW to solve the problem ?

A healthcare worker, likely a nurse, is shown in a hospital room. She is wearing a light blue surgical cap, glasses, and a white surgical mask. A piece of white paper is taped to the mask with handwritten text. She is also wearing a yellow protective gown. The background shows a hospital room with a bed, a wheelchair, and a window.

It is Hospital Policy That
I wear this Mask because I
choose **NOT** to have a Flu Shot
I am Fine!

Suggestions

- 1- Continuous educational and vaccination programs
- 2- Enhance accessibility of vaccines to HCWs
- 3- Role of MoH
- 4- Role of MENA-ISN



NAMV
NURSES AGAINST
MANDATORY VACCINES

FORCED VACCINATION- UNETHICAL- UNPROVEN- UNS

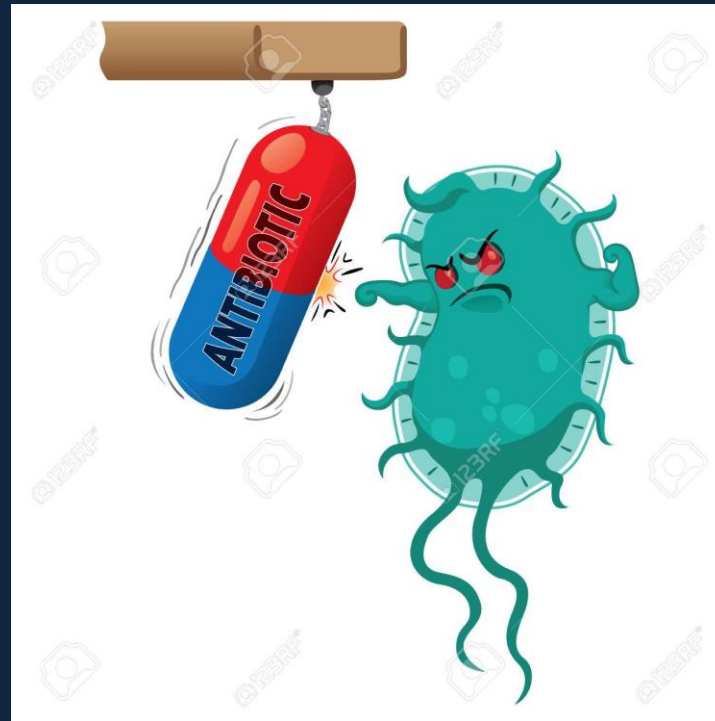
[HTTP://WWW.NAMV.ORG](http://www.namv.org)



HUMAN RIGHTS ???

MY right to infect my patients And be infected in return
(Moulin Rouge)

Debate 2: Influenza vaccination and Antimicrobial Resistance



Q1 Do you think Influenza vaccine has anything to do with AMR?

a- strong Yes 

b- Yes

c- Not sure

d- No

e- strong No

WHY?



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Review
Influenza vaccination and prevention of antimicrobial resistance
Susanna Esposito & Nicola Principi
Received 02 Aug 2018, Accepted 14 Sep 2018, Accepted author version posted online: 27 Sep 2018

Download citation <https://doi.org/10.1080/14760584.2018.1525298> Check for updates

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Accepted author version

1- Influenza itself is a major call to prescribe antibiotics

2- Influenza vaccine reduce Influenza and reduce number of bacterial superimposed infections

3- Modified (reduced) Influenza is associated with reduction in drug expenditure and limitations of risk of development of AMR

4- In 2014, 700 000 deaths occurred due to antimicrobial resistant strains worldwide. In the absence of adequate control measures, the number of deaths could increase to 10 000 000 in 2050 (a fact that prompted WHO, CDC and several nations to initiate GAPs to reduce & prevent AMR.

Q2 What is the size of AMR in your country

Q3 What is the percentage of antibiotic prescription in flu cases

Q4 Does selection of prescribed antibiotic in respiratory infections in your country follow guidelines or empirical

Q5 To what extent does AMR prompt you to prescribe Influenza vaccination?

The Evidence

- Influenza season was associated with 3-9 courses of antibiotics for every 100 children. 10-30% of these courses occurred during periods of Influenza virus circulation.

Neuzil J et al. NEJM (2000) 342 :225-231

- In the USA Impact National Benchmark Database indicate that among 270 257 subject with Influenza 21.6% were treated with antibiotics. Only 1% had a follow-up diagnosis of respiratory bacterial infection and 79% had neither a secondary infection nor evidence of comorbidity revealing high number of inappropriate antibiotic prescription.

Misurski D et al. Am J Manag Care (2011) 17:601-607

- A retrospective study in adults admitted to the hospital with Influenza confirmed respiratory infections 22% had a radiographic confirmed CAP , but antibiotics were prescribed to the majority of the patients. This lead to increased hospital stay, higher expenses without any improvement in outcome.

Ghazi I et al. Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol (2016) 37: 583-589

- Influenza vaccination reduced AOM in children and CAP in adults by about 40-70% in the 6 months following vaccine administration

Talbot H et al. Clin Infect Dis (2013)13,56:1774-1777

Esposito S et al. Expert Rev Vaccines (2018) posted online 27/9/2018

Key Issues

- Antibiotic abuse and misuse in viral infections increased AMR with relevant health and economic impacts
- AMR is a relevant clinical problem that must be fought with all potentially effective measures.
- Influenza vaccine is an effective measure to combat AMR by reducing antibiotic consumption.

Bacterial resistance

*“ We are standing on the brink
of a global crisis in infectious diseases.
No country is safe from them.
No country can afford
to ignore their threat.”¹*

Dr Hiroshi Nakajima, former Director General of WHO

How to improve Influenza coverage rates?



"All we have to do is place them
on the waiting room chairs!"