

Antimicrobial Resistance Meeting Programme

Tuesday 2 September – Wednesday 3 September, 2025

Te Pae, Christchurch, New Zealand

Tuesday 2 September		
Time	Details	Location
7.30am-8.00am	Mihi Whakatau <i>Registration required</i> <i>Please wait outside the room until you are invited in</i>	Conway C5
8.00am-8.15am	Comfort break	
<u>AMR Policy in New Zealand</u>		
Chaired by Ghader Bashiri (University of Auckland – Waipapa Taumata Rau)		
8.15am-9.00am	Andrew Old (AR1) Public Health Agency - Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui <i>Prioritising AMR in an ever-changing and increasingly pressured health system.</i>	Conway C5
9.00am-9.20am	Juliet Gerrard (AR2) University of Auckland – Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>Antimicrobial resistance – a case study in connecting research to government policy.</i>	Conway C5
9.20am-9.40am	David Murdoch (AR3) Public Health and Forensic Science <i>The roles of surveillance and public health laboratories in addressing antimicrobial resistance</i>	Conway C5
9.40am-10.00am	Ghader Bashiri (AR4) University of Auckland – Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>Launch of the New Zealand Antimicrobial Resistance Network (NZAMRNet).</i>	Conway C5
10.00am-10.30am	Morning Tea	Exhibition Hall E1+E2
<u>Diagnostics and Surveillance</u>		
Chaired by David Murdoch (PHF Science)		
10.30am-11.00am	Clare Possenniskie (AR5) Public Health Agency - Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui and Vicki Melville Ministry for Primary Industries - Manatū Ahu Matua <i>Update on cross-government national activity on AMR</i>	Conway C5
11.00am-11.30am	Eloise Williams (AR6) Public Health Agency - Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui and Vicki Melville Ministry for Primary Industries - Manatū Ahu Matua <i>A stocktake of surveillance activities in Aotearoa (including animal, plant and human health).</i>	Conway C5
11.30am-12.00pm	Sally Roberts (AR7) Health New Zealand – Te Toka Tumai <i>Antimicrobial resistance surveillance in Aotearoa New Zealand: reflections from clinical practice.</i>	Conway C5
12.00pm-1.30pm	Lunch	Exhibition Hall E1+E2

Access, Stewardship and Advocacy Chaired by Sally Roberts (Health New Zealand – Te Toka Tumai)		
1.30pm-2.00pm	James Ussher (AR8) University of Otago - Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka <i>A clinical update on the antimicrobial resistance landscape in New Zealand and the Pacific.</i>	Conway C5
2.00pm-2.30pm	Susan Bull (AR9) University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>Managing AMR: justice, inclusivity and sustainability.</i>	Conway C5
2.30pm-2.50pm	Tom Mules (AR10) Malaghan Institute of Medical Research <i>Droplet digital PCR-based detection of clarithromycin resistance on rapid urease test samples predicts Helicobacter pylori eradication success.</i>	Conway C5
2.50pm-3.10pm	Sarah Berger (AR11) Health New Zealand – Waitaha & Te Tai o Poutini <i>AMR after diagnostics: incident management of three laboratory-confirmed CPE cases in three nursing homes in Canterbury and West Coast.</i>	Conway C5
3.10pm-3.30pm	Kristin Dyet (AR12) Public Health and Forensic Science <i>Carbapenemase-producing organisms in New Zealand.</i>	Conway C5
3.30pm-4.00pm	Afternoon Break	Exhibition Hall E1+E2
Student talks from abstracts Chaired by Jodie Johnstone (University of Canterbury - Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha)		
4.00pm-4.20pm	Jeremy Dubrulle (AR13) University of Otago - Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka <i>Mobile shields: plasmid-encoded barriers to phage therapy and their role in the antibiotic crisis.</i>	Conway C5
4.20pm-4.40pm	Te Xiao (AR14) University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>Antimicrobial tolerance will no longer be tolerated.</i>	Conway C5
4.40pm-5.00pm	Andrew McCabe (AR15) University of Canterbury - Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha <i>Using mammals to map antimicrobial resistance across Aotearoa.</i>	Conway C5
5.00pm-5.20pm	O'Rorke Smith (AR16) University of Otago - Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka <i>Cell membrane-mimicking liposomes as an anti-virulence therapy for Acinetobacter baumannii and Staphylococcus aureus.</i>	Conway C5
5.20pm-5.40pm	Tori Peters (AR17) University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>Gels vs Germs.</i>	Conway C5
5.40pm-6.00pm	Kate Pennycuik (AR18) University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>RNase HI as a drug target in Neisseria gonorrhoeae.</i>	Conway C5
6.00pm-8.30pm	Poster Session	Exhibition Hall E1+E2
6.00pm-8.30pm	Evening Social Function <i>Sponsored by Decode Science</i>	Exhibition Hall E1+E2

Wednesday 3 September		
Time	Details	Location
<u>New Antibiotic Development</u> Chaired by Shaun Lott (University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau)		
8.00am-8.30am	Luke Guddat (AR19) University of Queensland <i>Acetohydroxyacid synthase: A target for antimicrobial drug discovery.</i>	Conway C5
8.30am-9.00am	Greg Cook (AR20) Queensland University of Technology <i>Ionophore-mediated metal stress to combat antimicrobial-resistant Staphylococcus aureus.</i>	Conway C5
9.00am-9.20am	Alan Cameron (AR21) University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>New strategies to target hard to treat Gram-positive infections.</i>	Conway C5
9.20am-9.40am	Richard Kingston (AR22) University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>Nucleoside analogs containing an imino-ribitol sugar exhibit a unique and characteristic pattern of interference with RNA synthesis by the Dengue virus polymerase.</i>	Conway C5
9.40am-10.00am	Kurt Krause (AR23) University of Otago - Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka <i>How a dormant, but essential, enzyme in Pseudomonas aeruginosa is activated 20,000-fold by a cell-wall precursor.</i>	Conway C5
10.00am-10.30am	Morning Tea	Exhibition Hall E1+E2
<u>AMR in the Environment</u> Chaired by Sam Trowsdale (University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau)		
10.30am-11.00am	Joanna McKenzie (AR24) Massey University <i>Bringing environment into the One Health AMR frame: experience from South Asia.</i>	Conway C5
11.00am-11.30am	Adrian Cookson (AR25) Bioeconomy Science Institute – AgResearch <i>Linking land-use to the likely origins of ESBL-Enterobacterales in freshwater.</i>	Conway C5
11.30am-12.00pm	Simon Swift (AR26) University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>AMR in the environment and the impact of climate change.</i>	Conway C5
12.00pm-1.00pm	Lunch	Exhibition Hall E1+E2

Innovative Strategies against AMR		
Chaired by Jo Hicks (University of Waikato – Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato)		
1.00pm-1.30pm	Mark Schembri (AR27) University of Queensland <i>Antibiotic resistant superbugs: it's all about the clones.</i> (Sponsored by Te Niwha Infectious Disease Research Platform)	Conway C5
1.30pm-1.50pm	Matthew McNeil (AR28) University of Otago - Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka <i>High throughput genetic interaction screens to guide combination drug design for Mycobacterium tuberculosis.</i>	Conway C5
1.50pm-2.10pm	Simon Jackson (AR29) University of Waikato – Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato <i>Developing phage therapies to tackle antimicrobial resistance.</i>	Conway C5
2.10pm-2.30pm	Daniel Pletzer (AR30) University of Otago - Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka <i>Peptidomimetic strategies to tackle drug-resistant co-infections.</i>	Conway C5
2.30pm-2.50pm	Kristi Biswas (AR31) University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>Tackling biofilm-associated infections in upper respiratory diseases</i>	Conway C5
3.00pm-3.30pm	Afternoon Break	Exhibition Hall E1+E2
Translational Pathways		
Chaired by Kimberly Jordan (University of Auckland - Waipapa Taumata Rau)		
3.30pm-4.00pm	Richard Alm (AR32) CARB-X <i>CARB-X – accelerating the development of novel products to tackle AMR.</i>	Conway C5
4.00pm-4.30pm	Andrew Bowskill (AR33) Australian AMR Network (AAMRNet) <i>Fighting superbugs: The Australian Antimicrobial Resistance Network (AAMRNet).</i>	Conway C5
4.30pm-4.50pm	Brett Marett (AR34) GSK Medical Affairs <i>An industry perspective on AMR: challenges & opportunities.</i>	Conway C5
4.50pm-5.00pm	Ghader Bashiri University of Auckland – Waipapa Taumata Rau <i>Final discussion and wrap-up.</i>	Conway C5

	QRW Panel Discussion & Plenary Lecture	
5.30pm-5.40pm	Introduction	Auditorium A3+A4
5.40pm-6.25pm	Panel Discussion on Aotearoa New Zealand's future research, science & innovation sector (moderated by Dr Marie Bradley) Sir Peter Gluckman ONZ KNZM FRSNZ, University of Auckland Professor Emily Parker FRSNZ, Victoria University of Wellington Mark Piper Transitional CEO, Bioeconomy Science Institute Professor David R. Grattan FRSNZ, University of Otago	Auditorium A3+A4
6.30pm-7.40pm	QRW Plenary Lecture <i>Sponsored by Mediscope International Limited</i> Prof. Tak Mak Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, University of Toronto and Centre of Oncology and Immunology, University of Hong Kong <i>Beyond immune checkpoint blockade: emerging strategies</i>	Auditorium A3+A4
7.45pm-9.30pm	Evening Social Function <i>Sponsored by Thermo Fisher Scientific</i> Drinks and nibbles The Great QMB Trivia Night with Pierre de Cordovez	Exhibition Hall E1+E2