# Transatlantic Taskforce on Antimicrobial Resistance



TATFAR was created in 2009 to address the urgent threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). TATFAR's technical experts from Canada, the European Union (EU), Norway, and the United States (U.S.) collaborate and share best practices to strengthen domestic and global efforts in the fight against antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

#### **KEY AREA 1:** Appropriate Antimicrobial Use In Human Medicine

Working together, members improve appropriate antimicrobial use in human health care through actions like:

- Publishing an online report titled <u>Data for Action: Using Available Data Sources at the Country Level</u> to Track Antibiotic Use.
- Publishing an article with detailed information on the reduction goals targets and corresponding metrics titled <u>Targets for the reduction of antibiotic use in humans in the Transatlantic Taskforce on</u> Antimicrobial Resistance (TATFAR) partner countries.
- Aligning campaigns that promote appropriate antimicrobial use, including collaboration with other partners, like the World Health Organization, to support <u>World Antimicrobial Awareness Week</u> (WAAW).

#### Canada

- Develops and shares guidance and products for appropriate antimicrobial use and infection prevention and control for health professionals and the general public. For example:
  - With support from the Government of Canada, Choosing Wisely Canada published a toolkit addressing the management of respiratory tract infections with considerations of COVID-19 and virtual care, including when to prescribe antibiotics.
  - The Government of Canada's WAAW social media campaign reached approximately 383,000 Canadians through Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.



### **European Union**

- Aims to inform and assist in activities that promote prudent use of antimicrobials in the public and healthcare professionals. For example:
  - In 2020, ECDC released a <u>video on "Antibiotic Resistance: What can you do as a healthcare specialist?"</u>, receiving more than 1,000 views.
  - The EU developed <u>Guidelines for the prudent use of</u> <u>antimicrobials in human health</u>, for relevant actors: from health authorities, to doctors, pharmacists and patients.



#### **Norway**

- Collaborates with healthcare personnel to promote antibiotic stewardship and ensure that the necessary tools are available. For example:
  - Published in 2017, an <u>AMR action plan</u> focused on disease prevention and prudent use of antibiotics.
  - Facilitates use of vaccines and diagnostics (e.g., C-reactive protein (CRP) in primary care), including reimbursement.
  - Provides antibiotic prescribing guidelines (both <u>primary care</u> and <u>secondary</u>)
    as an app for mobile devices.
  - Actively engages with the public in antibiotic awareness campaigns, especially during European Antibiotic Awareness Week.





#### **United States**

- Improves antimicrobial use by increasing education and awareness among providers and the public, and driving enhancements to prevent infections. For example:
  - CDC had more than 5,000 downloads of its Be Antibiotics Aware print materials during WAAW 2020, and more than 350 participants attended a continuing education webinar on antibiotic use in hospitals.



## **Moving Forward**

#### TATFAR partners will:

- Continue to coordinate around the WAAW campaign for the next five-year implementation period.
- Continue to exchange information on actions and approaches related to the appropriate use of antimicrobials in human medicine.

