



Name: Professor Dame Sally C Davies DBE

Role: Chief Medical Officer

Foreword

I am sorry not to be able to join you for what will be an interesting day exploring the relationship between antimicrobial resistance in humans, other animals and the environment. The rapid spread of multi-resistant bacteria, especially Gram negatives, in human health settings shows the urgent need to tackle this issue. This is particularly important if we are to conserve the effectiveness of existing treatments needed for routine medical practice, such as surgical prophylaxis, and prevent the threat of untreatable infections.

That is why the Department of Health has been leading work, in conjunction with Defra and other Government Departments, to develop a new integrated strategy and action plan which will give a new focus for this issue, champion the responsible use of antimicrobials and strengthen research and surveillance capability.

A key objective of this five-year strategy will be to raise the profile of antimicrobial resistance among professionals and wider society to ensure that everyone understands the need to act now and changes their practices. As clinical leaders in your field you have a key role in inspiring change and I urge you to respond to this challenge by helping to build a movement amongst professionals who promote and practise responsible use of antimicrobials.

With best wishes for a productive day

Prof Dame Sally Davies DBE
Chief Medical Officer

Biography

Professor Dame Sally Davies is the Chief Medical Officer for England and the UK Government's principal medical adviser. As well as being CMO, Sally is also Chief Scientific Adviser for the Department of Health and has responsibility for Research and Development.

Sally has been actively involved in NHS R&D from its establishment and established the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). Sally is also active internationally on developing health research policy and strategy. Her own research interests focused on Sickle Cell disease. In September 2011, Sally was conferred as Emeritus Professor at Imperial College London.