Fact Sheet: Incentives for AMR products

Medicines Australia

The HTA Review recommends incentivising the development of health technologies to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR). These will solve market failure conditions for novel antimicrobials.

AMR is one of the top global public health and development threats and the need for new treatments for resistant infections is urgent. New treatments must be used sparingly to avoid growing resistance and as such there is little commercial incentive to invest in the research and development required to bring them to market.

Recommendation 21 recognises the need for incentives such as HTA fee waivers for products that target pathogens on the World Health Organisation's priority pathogen list. The Review recommends a flexible reimbursement policy for antimicrobials.

Importantly, there is a recommendation to establish, in the short-term, a subscription funding model, guided by international experience, and tailored for the Australian setting. This recommendation has been strengthened since the HTA Options Paper, which called for a workshop to consider a pilot.

Industry, together with the Australian AMR Network (AAMRNet), has advocated for the adoption of a new subscription model where value is delinked from volume, such as in the successful United Kingdom trial.

Members with novel antimicrobials in their pipeline are encouraged to get involved in the co-design of the pilot.