

WSC SPOTLIGHT: SEPSIS, PANDEMICS, AND ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE – GLOBAL HEALTH THREATS OF THE 21ST CENTURY

A Free Online Congress
by the World Health Organization
and the Global Sepsis Alliance

To be held completely online
on 9 September 2020

Information and free registration:
wscspotlight.org

#wscspotlight

Program Chairs:
Hanan Balkhy, Assistant Director-General, WHO
Konrad Reinhart, President, Global Sepsis Alliance



Global
Sepsis
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Welcome to the WSC Spotlight: Sepsis, Pandemics, and Antimicrobial Resistance - Global Health Threats of the 21st Century

On 9 September 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Global Sepsis Alliance (GSA) will host a co-organized World Sepsis Congress Spotlight. This free online event aims to review achievements, challenges, and potential solutions to combat the threat of sepsis worldwide.

Recognizing that most deaths from sepsis can be prevented by simple measures of infection prevention, vaccination, clean care, and early recognition, and that antimicrobial resistance (AMR) can jeopardize clinical management of sepsis, the Seventieth World Health Assembly (WHA) adopted a **Resolution on Sepsis** in 2017.

Highlighting the vast scale of sepsis as a global health threat, the 'Global Burden of Disease Report' estimated that sepsis, which can be caused by most infectious microorganisms, affected a staggering **48.9 million people and claimed 11 million lives worldwide in 2017**. Manifestations of sepsis and septic shock are frequently the final pathway for emerging infectious disease threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent Ebola outbreaks, contributing to the overall global burden of sepsis.

In addition, the steadily growing threat of AMR contributes considerably to the enormous human, medical, and economic burden of infectious diseases. Outbreaks in hospitals of infections with resistant microorganisms are increasingly common. For example, the 3rd WHO Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System report published in 2020 found that the median resistance rates of Acinetobacter species (a common cause of hospital infections) were as high as 41.2% and 63.2% to aminoglycosides and carbapenems, respectively, with some countries already reporting 90-100% resistance.

The large and ever-increasing scale of both threats demands global attention, which is the objective of this congress. Over the course of 6 distinctive sessions, the WSC Spotlight will:

- Provide an overview of lessons and challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic and recent Ebola outbreaks in the global fight against sepsis and AMR
- Describe the current global epidemiology and burden of sepsis and AMR as well as explore a future research agenda
- Explore innovative, novel, and cost-effective approaches to preventing and combating sepsis and AMR

Like the 1st and 2nd WSC in 2016 and 2018, and the first WSC Spotlight in 2017, this free online congress brings together highly ranked representatives of international and national healthcare authorities, NGOs, policymakers, patients, patient advocacy groups, clinical scientists, researchers, and pioneers in healthcare improvement with the unified goal of improving AMR and sepsis healthcare around the world.

As program chairs and on behalf of the World Health Organization and the Global Sepsis Alliance, we cordially invite you to join us for this free online congress at wscspotlight.org on 9 September 2020, just 4 days before the 9th World Sepsis Day on 13 September.



Hanan Balkhy, MD
Assistant-Director General
World Health Organization
Antimicrobial Resistance



Konrad Reinhart, MD ML
President Global Sepsis Alliance
Senior & BIH Visiting Professor
Charité University Hospital Berlin

Session 1:
Opening Session
10:30h Berlin Time

Session 2:
The Epidemiology and Burden of Sepsis
12:30h Berlin Time

Session 3:
Antimicrobial Resistance: An Emerging Global Health Threat
14:00h Berlin Time

Session 4:
Sepsis, Ebola, and COVID-19
15:30h Berlin Time

Session 5:
A Comprehensive and Integrated Approach to Preventing Sepsis and AMR
17:00h Berlin Time

Session 6:
Early Identification and Appropriate Clinical Management of Sepsis Saves Lives and Prevents AMR
18:30h Berlin Time

Session 1: Opening Session

Wednesday, 9 September
at 10:30h Berlin Time
(click to see your local time zone)

Opening Remarks: Hanan Balkhy, Assistant Director-General, World Health Organization, Switzerland
Chair: Simon Finfer, Global Sepsis Alliance, Australia

10:35h Berlin Time

WHO Response to Global Health Threats: Sepsis, AMR, and COVID-19
Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization, Switzerland

10:50h Berlin Time

Entering a New Era for Tackling AMR
Hanan Balkhy, Assistant Director-General, World Health Organization, Switzerland

11:05h Berlin Time

Keynote: The Next Generation of Environmentally Friendly Antibiotics
Ada Yonath, Nobel Prize Laureate, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel

11:25h Berlin Time

Global Impact of COVID-19
Jeremy Farrar, Wellcome Trust, United Kingdom (to be confirmed)

11:40h Berlin Time

Vaccination Saves Lives through Prevention of Sepsis
Seth Berkley, GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, Switzerland

11:55h Berlin Time

The Patient Safety Dimension
Liam Donaldson, WHO Envoy for Patient Safety, United Kingdom

12:10h Berlin Time

The WHO Global Sepsis Epidemiology Report: Towards a Global Sepsis Research Agenda
Alessandro Cassini, World Health Organization, Switzerland

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Session 2: The Epidemiology and Burden of Sepsis

Wednesday, 9 September
at 12:30h Berlin Time
(click to see your local time zone)

Chair: Niranjan 'Tex' Kisson, Global Sepsis Alliance, Canada

12:30h Berlin Time

Keynote: The Global Burden of Sepsis
Kristina Rudd, University of Pittsburgh, United States of America

12:45h Berlin Time

The Burden of Maternal Sepsis in Fragile Populations
Zenaïda Recidoro, National Safe Mother Program Department of Health, Philippines

13:00h Berlin Time

The Burden of Sepsis in Children and Neonates: Lessons Learned from Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)
Matthew Westercamp, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States of America

13:15h Berlin Time

Challenges in Implementing Sepsis and AMR Surveillance
Uduak Okomo, Medical Research Council Unit The Gambia at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, The Gambia

13:30h Berlin Time

Drivers of and Inequalities in the Burden of Sepsis in LMICs
Flavia Machado, Global Sepsis Alliance, Brazil

Session 3: Antimicrobial Resistance: An Emerging Global Health Threat

Wednesday, 9 September
at 14:00h Berlin Time
(click to see your local time zone)

Chair: Maha Talaat, World Health Organization, Egypt

14:00h Berlin Time

Keynote: One-Health-Approach to AMR and Global Health Threats
Ilaria Capua, Emerging Pathogens Institute, University of Florida, United States of America

14:15h Berlin Time

Novel Medicines Project: Driving Reinvestment in Research and Development and Responsible Antibiotic Use
Stephan Harbarth, Infection Control Programme, Geneva University Hospitals, Switzerland

14:30h Berlin Time

Cost-Effective Interventions to Combat AMR
Zahurul Islam, International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh

14:45h Berlin Time

AMR in Neonates and Children with Sepsis in LMICs
Mike Sharland, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, United Kingdom

15:00h Berlin Time

Antimicrobial Stewardship in Limiting MDROs
Jameela Alsaman, Ministry of Health, Bahrain

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Session 4: Sepsis, Ebola, and COVID-19

Wednesday, 9 September
 at 15:30h Berlin Time
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Chair: Emmanuel Nsutebu, African Sepsis Alliance, United Arab Emirates

15:30h Berlin Time

Keynote: WHO Clinical Response to Sepsis, COVID-19, and Ebola
 Janet Diaz, World Health Organization, United States of America

15:45h Berlin Time

Managing Sepsis in COVID-19 Patients – Special Considerations
 Hala Abuzeid, Abu Dhabi Health Service, United Arab Emirates

16:00h Berlin Time

COVID-19 Therapeutics: What We Have Learned and Where We Are Going
 Marco Cavaleri, European Medicines Agency, The Netherlands

16:15h Berlin Time

Mobile Emergency Care Units Ebola Sepsis Improve Survival
 Richard Kojan, The Alliance for International Medical Action,
 Democratic Republic of the Congo

16:30h Berlin Time

Inflammatory Response Due to COVID-19 Infection
 Yee Sin Leo, National Centre for Infectious Diseases, Singapore

Session 5: A Comprehensive and Integrated Approach to Preventing Sepsis and AMR

Wednesday, 9 September
 at 17:00h Berlin Time
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Chair: Folasade Ogunsola, University of Lagos, Nigeria

17:00h Berlin Time

Keynote: Preventing Infection and Improving Health in LMICs: Lessons
 Learned from Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Programmes
 Kelly Naylor, UNICEF, United States of America

17:15h Berlin Time

WHO IPC Strategy to Prevent AMR and Sepsis
 Benedetta Allegranzi, World Health Organization, Switzerland

17:30h Berlin Time

The Impact of BCG Vaccination on COVID-19 and Respiratory Infections
 Evangelos Giamarellos, European Sepsis Alliance, Greece

17:45h Berlin Time

Preventing Sepsis and AMR in ICU Patients
 Mervyn Mer, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

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Session 6: Early Identification and Appropriate Clinical Management of Sepsis Saves Lives and Prevents AMR

Wednesday, 9 September
 at 18:30h Berlin Time
 (click to see your local time zone)

Chair: Ron Daniels, Global Sepsis Alliance, United Kingdom

18:30h Berlin Time

Keynote: Bringing the Fight Against Sepsis to the Next Level
 Konrad Reinhart, Global Sepsis Alliance, Germany

18:45h Berlin Time

Management and Treatment of Possible Serious Bacterial Infection in Infants in Resource-Limited Settings
 Shally Awasthi, King George's Medical University, India

19:00h Berlin Time

The Role of the Pathogen in the Management of Sepsis
 Arjen Dondorp, Asia Pacific Sepsis Alliance, Thailand

19:15h Berlin Time

Pediatric Sepsis: Guidelines and More
 Rana Sharara-Chami, American University of Beirut Medical Center, Lebanon

19:30h Berlin Time

The Role of Sepsis and AMR for Patient Safety
 Abdulelah Al-Hawsawi, Saudi Patient Safety Center, Saudi Arabia

19:45h Berlin Time

Closing Remarks:
 Hanan Balkhy, Assistant Director-General, World Health Organization, Switzerland
 Niranjana 'Tex' Kissoon, Global Sepsis Alliance, Canada

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coming soon

If your organization is interested in supporting the promotion of the WSC Spotlight, please contact [Marvin Zick](#). No financial support is requested, but we would like your organization to promote the congress among your members.

The WSC Spotlight:
Sepsis, Pandemics, and Antimicrobial Resistance – Global Health Threats of the 21st Century
is co-organized by the [World Health Organization](#) and
the Global Sepsis Alliance, initiator of [World Sepsis Day](#) and
[World Sepsis Congress](#).

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