

AMR Alliance Japan Policy Recommendations Toward the Next National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance

Based on policy recommendations released in July 2019, AMR Alliance Japan proposes that the following items be added, changed or emphasized in the Japanese Government's next National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, to be set from 2021 onward.

- **Set appropriate outcome indices** ([change](#))
 - It is crucial that outcome indices aimed at promoting antimicrobial stewardship be set based on the actual situation at healthcare facilities. The Government should reconsider whether or not the current indices are excessively discouraging the use of antimicrobials in cases where their use is warranted, and revise the indices based on that consideration. Indices could be set in a more appropriate manner by defining specific regions and patient groups for each index, and by using data from existing databases or surveys of medical institutions.

- **Establish incentives to sustainably support antimicrobial R&D** ([addition](#))
 - The Nikkei Asia Africa Conference on Communicable established a sub-committee on AMR at the beginning of 2019 that is working to develop recommendations toward the implementation of pull incentives in Japan. Due consideration to the recommendations of this sub-committee should be paid when revising strategies to foster the research and development of antimicrobials.

- **Establish measures to ensure the stable supply of antimicrobials** ([addition](#))
 - The Economic Affairs Division under the Health Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has established a Committee on Measures to Ensure the Stable Procurement of Pharmaceuticals. This committee is examining policies to prevent and respond to drug shortages. The deliberations of this committee should be considered when setting strategies in the Action Plan on measures to ensure the stable supply of antimicrobials.

- **Foster and reward medical personnel to further promote antimicrobial stewardship** ([emphasize](#))
 - Efforts should be made to promote an increase in medical personnel trained to carry out specialized tests (identification and susceptibility tests, including AMR screening and genetic testing) and Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM). These efforts should be bolstered by the creation of incentives, including through the medical fee system.