



Course Syllabus

Addressing the threat of Antimicrobial Resistance
for better cancer care outcomes



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Course Description

Over the last decades, there has been significant progress in cancer care, with key advances in surgery, radiotherapy and medicines, including new immunotherapy agents. More lives are being saved from cancer than ever before. However, this progress is at risk due to the significant and growing threat of drug-resistant bacteria. People with cancer are more susceptible to hospital-acquired infections due to the lowering of their immune defences. In particular, pneumonia and sepsis are among the most frequent causes of admission to intensive care units for cancer patients and it is estimated that 8.5% of cancer deaths are due to severe sepsis.

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a growing public health issue that needs urgent attention around the world. Infections become drug-resistant when bacteria that cause them adapt and change over time, developing the ability to resist the drugs designed to kill them. The result is that many drugs – like antibiotics – are becoming less effective at treating illnesses. The overuse of antibiotics in both humans and animals is speeding up this process. Without effective antibiotics, routine surgery and life-saving treatments like chemotherapy, can become life-threatening. It is estimated that at least 700,000 people die each year from drug-resistant infections, and this is set to increase to 10 million by 2050 if we do not take action now.

The cancer community just join forces with other global health actors, such as those working in communicable diseases to push governments to act and prevent more patients dying from drug-resistant infections.

This course is accredited by the Accreditation Council of Oncology in Europe (ACOE) and its completion gives 7 European CME Credits.

Learning Objectives

After completion of the course participants will be able to:

1. Describe what antimicrobial resistance is and how it has become a public health issue.
2. Understand how antimicrobial resistance negatively impacts cancer care outcomes globally and in their own setting.
3. Explain the approaches used to tackle the global threat of antimicrobial resistance and potential solutions to address this threat.
4. Learn about national action plans for antimicrobial resistance (NAPs) and understand the importance of their implementation.
5. Gain an insight into the role of access to medicines and infectious disease diagnostics in addressing AMR.

Course Syllabus

In the table below you will find the course syllabus including an overview of each module and the guest speakers.

The course will take approximately 7 hours to complete.

Module	Course Material	Speaker, Organisation	Estimated time (minutes)
	Entry Survey		10
Module 1 Why should the cancer community care about AMR?	Webinar: What is AMR and why is it called a 'silent pandemic'?	Jay Purdy, Pfizer	35
	Webinar: How does AMR impact cancer care?	Lillian Sung, SIOF	35
	Assessment – multiple choice questions		15
Module 2 Influencing policy change with data and surveillance.	Webinar: The importance of increasing knowledge and influencing policy change with data and surveillance.	Dame Sally Davies, UK Government's Special Envoy on AMR	30
	Webinar: WHO Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System (GLASS) and AMR national actions plans	Barbara Tornimbene, World Health Organisation	25
	Webinar: Progress on national action plan implementation to tackle antimicrobial resistance	Sarah Paulin, World Health Organisation	20
	Assessment – multiple choice questions		15

Module 3 Infection control and rational use of medicines	Webinar: Infection prevention and control in addressing AMR	Benedetta Allegranzi, World Health Organisation	45
	Webinar: Rational use of medicines and AMR stewardship	Isabelle M C Mweemba, Policy and Practice Adviser, ReACT	30
	Assessment – multiple choice questions		15
Module 4 Access to antimicrobials and infectious disease diagnostics.	Webinar: Access to infectious diseases diagnostics (FIND)	Cecilia Ferreyra, Head of AMR, FIND Geneva	30
	Webinar: Antibiotic access: Key factor in Cancer Care	Dr Subasree Srinivasan, Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP)	30
	Webinar: Industry perspectives on addressing AMR The antibiotic and R&D ecosystem Importance of access to and rational use of existing and new treatments and diagnostics.	James Anderson, International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA) Steve Conly, BD Biosciences	30
	Assessment – multiple choice questions		15
Course completion	Exit survey		15

Biographies

Course Leaders



Shalini Jayasekar-Zürn

Shalini is a senior advocacy manager and focal point for the work on access to treatment in UICC. She is a biologist by training and has extensive experience on the issues of access to quality assured medicines. She gained experience on this topic by working on the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines with the World Health Organization, MSF's Access Campaign in India and other NGOs at international and national level. She also has experience working with the pharmaceutical industry.



Zuzanna Tittenbrun

Zuzanna Tittenbrun is a Global Resources Manager at UICC, working in the Knowledge, Advocacy and Policy team. She holds an MSc in Global Health Policy from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and MA in Languages and Cultural Studies from the University of Warsaw. Zuzanna is responsible for UICC resources, including the TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours and cancer staging related projects as well as works in the area of national cancer control planning. As part of the International Cancer Control Partnership, Zuzanna manages the iccp-portal which collects national cancer control plans from all over the world.



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