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JUNE UPDATES

- 1. drive-AMS at ESCMID Global 2025
- 2. Upcoming drive-AMS consortium event
- 3. Interview with AMS leaders in Cyprus
- 4. First mission of SPICE & expansion of drive-AMS philosophy to Africa

DRIVE-AMS UPDATES

drive-AMS @ ESCMID Global 2025

At the ESCMID Global 2025 conference (Vienna, 11-15 April), the drive-AMS consortium presented key outcomes from its innovative project. The poster, titled "Implementation of hospital antimicrobial stewardship in Europe using a data-driven behaviour change approach," showcased inspiring results from the first two years of the project.

At the start of the conference, the Global Point Prevalence Survey (Global-PPS) community came together for its annual meeting. During this session, Prof. Emmanuel Roilides and Dr. Elias Iosifidis shared recent drive-AMS developments in Greece and Cyprus with an engaged audience of over 160 participants, both onsite and online.

Table 2. Examples of implementation project topics

Antimicrobial prescribing guidelines



- Reducing carbapenem use for community-acquired pneumonia
- Reducing antifungal prophylaxis in haemato-oncology patients
- Reducing antibiotic use for asymptomatic bacteriuria



Documentation

- Improving documentation of indication for antibiotics
- Improving documentation of antibiotic stop/review date

Duration and de-escalation



- De-escalation after urine culture results in urinary tract infections
- Reducing duration of surgical prophylaxis
- IV-PO switch in patients with community-acquired pneumonia

Read more

Save-the-date: final consortium meeting



Sadly, the drive-AMS project is approaching its conclusion in October 2025. But not until drive-AMS partners, experts and stakeholders will have come together to discuss achievements and shape future collaborations in a final consortium meeting.

More information

Leadership and follow-up training events in Portugal

On May 21st, ULS São João brought together leaders from 16 Portuguese ULS (Local Health Units) for the national leadership meeting of the drive-AMS project to reflect on the program's progress, share experiences, and identify common challenges in implementing antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) at the local level.



More information

PARTICIPANT INTERVIEW

Dr. Markella Marcou and Dr. Linos Hadjihannas on behalf of the Cyprus MOH

After successful rollouts in Greece, Portugal, Romania, and Lithuania, the drive-AMS programme has now taken root in Cyprus. With strong leadership from Dr. Elisavet Constantinou, Dr. Markella Marcou and Dr. Linos Hadjihannas, eight newly formed hospital AMS teams received tailored training in early 2025. What motivated this expansion? What challenges and opportunities does Cyprus face in the fight against AMR? In an inspiring interview, Dr. Marcou and Dr. Hadjihannas reflect on their journey and share why this is only the beginning.





Read the interview here

AMS IN EUROPE & WORLDWIDE

SPICE mission in Greece



The SPICE initiative (Specialized Program for Infectious Disease Care Everywhere) has now expanded its expert-led support to Greece. This effort is part of the broader drive-AMS project and aims to empower hospitals in partner countries with tailored, expert-backed AMS consultation services.

Discover more

Strengthening AMS in East Africa



The drive-AMS team recently joined forces with ICARS, ReAct Africa, and Aga Khan University Hospital Nairobi to deliver an AMS training in Kenya. The course brought together passionate healthcare teams from eight Kenyan hospitals and one from Somalia, all committed to improving antimicrobial use in their institutions. With handson sessions, local context, and cross-country exchange, the training sparked new momentum for AMS in the region.

Read more here



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