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**Name of the University, Hospital, Research Institute, Academy or Ministry**

National Center for Global health and Medicine

**Name of the Division, Department, Unit, Section or Area**

AMR Clinical Reference Center

**City** Shinjuku-ku **Reference Number** JPN-98

**Title** WHO Collaborating Center for prevention, preparedness and response to Antimicrobial Resistance

**Report Year** 02-2023 to 02-2024

**1. Annual report on the agreed workplan**

**Describe progress made on the agreed workplan. For each activity, detail (1) the actions taken, (2) the outputs delivered, as well as (3) any difficulties that may have been encountered. Three responses are expected. [maximum 200 words per activity]. Indicate, if an activity has been completed previously, has not yet started or has been placed on hold.**

**Activity 1**

**Title:** 1. To provide support to WHO in developing and conducting training and mentoring activities for planning, development and implementation of antimicrobial stewardship and infection prevention and control activities, based on the request of WHO

**Description:** Member States have expressed their interest in receiving the technical support required to create capacities at national, subnational and facility level, in order to strengthen IPC and antimicrobial stewardship. The deliverables will support WHO's work with Member States towards strengthening their capacity for IPC and antimicrobial stewardship

**Status:** ongoing

Dr. Norio OHMAGARI, Dr. Nobuaki MATSUNAGA, and Dr. Yumiko FUJITOMO from NCGM attended the Tokyo Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) One Health Conference hosted by the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare (February 28, 2024). We introduced some of the initiatives and achievements of Japan's National Action Plan on AMR to countries in the World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Region and South East Asian Region. From the NCGM, we reported the progress of our antimicrobial stewardship introduction to countries of WPRO and presented antimicrobial surveillance in Japan. We also presented our plan for the introduction of the Japanese Manual of Antimicrobial Stewardship and Antimicrobial Stewardship programs in hospitals. We also determined that prescribing antimicrobials without a prescription is a potential problem, and shared that we will continue to take measures to address this.

**Activity 2**

**Title:** 2. To inform WHO's work as a core member of the AMR consortium through the provision of technical inputs

**Description:** In order to support WHO's work as a leading participant of the AMR consortium, technical inputs in specific areas of work related to AMR are required from other institutions, which may inform the technical work conducted by WHO in such context

Status: ongoing

Dr. Norio OHMAGARI, Dr. Nobuaki MATSUNAGA, and Dr. Yumiko FUJITOMO attended the Tokyo AMR One Health Conference and discussed the initiatives and achievements of Japan's National Action Plan on AMR (conducted by Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare to SEAR and WPR countries (February 28, 2024). We led Working Group 3 on behalf of Japan's MHLW and initiated the following activities. Dr. Norio OHMAGARI chaired with the presentation by Dr. Nobuaki MATSUNAGA. From the NCGM, we presented regulations and enforcement of antibiotic prescriptions for selected countries. We will proceed with our activity to obtain updated situations of prescription antimicrobials not only in human areas, but also in animal areas.

### **Activity 3**

Title: 3. To provide technical inputs to inform WHO's work towards the development of AMR advocacy and awareness strategies and tools, to help champion AMR beyond the health sector in WPR Member States (particularly priority LMICs)

Description: The Framework for Accelerating Action to Fight Antimicrobial Resistance in the Western Pacific Region advances the formation of a movement to fight AMR as an overarching principle to mobilize mass action, underpinned by value formation – of protecting self, society and future generations. The aim is to support WHO's efforts in order to recast AMR as a political and social issue and ingrain collective behavior change through incremental, yet sustained, awareness-raising and adoption of good practices to reach a level whereby acting responsibly to combat AMR will become a societal norm and a way of life. WHO will use the technical support from the institution in order to inform its work towards the design of awareness raising strategies and strategic communication tools, to enable communities to combat AMR

Status: ongoing

Dr. Yumiko FUJITOMO and Dr. Akane ONO worked with academic groups to translate WHO hand hygiene campaign posters and distribute them to healthcare facilities (May 2023). In line with the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) campaign, awareness-raising activities were conducted in Japan (November 2023).

Dr. Norio OHMAGARI, Dr. Nobuaki MATSUNAGA, and Dr. Haruhiko ISHIOKA exchanged views with Vietnam on introducing the Manual of Antimicrobial Stewardship and antimicrobial stewardship program in hospitals. We translated the Manual into Vietnamese and gave it to them (June 2023).

Dr. Yuki MORIYAMA reviewed and provided feedback on the "Cook Islands Antibiotic Guidelines" at the request of WPRO (October 2023).

Dr. Nobuaki MATSUNAGA, Dr. Yumiko FUJITOMO, RN. Kumiko SUZUKI, Ms. Ai YONEKAWA, and Dr. Masahiro ISHIKANE reviewed the National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance 2018-2022" at the request of the Ministry of Health, Bhutan (February 2024).

### **Activity 4**

Title: 4. Provision of technical support to assist WHO's work in the response to infectious disease outbreak including AMR pathogens, as requested

Description: Technical support provided by the institution will assist WHO's activities to deal with outbreak response, in particular AMR pathogens in the Western-Pacific Region

Status: ongoing

Dr. Nobuaki MATSUNAGA and Dr. Masahiro ISHIKANE attended the International Forum on Gonococcal Infections and Resistance in Nanjing, China, based on requests from the National Center for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Control, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and WHO Collaborating Center for the Prevention and Control of Sexually Transmitted Infection (CHN-75) (16-18, October 2023). Dr. ISHIKANE presented the change in resistance of Neisseria gonorrhoeae worldwide during the COVID-19 pandemic. We discussed with experts how to prepare for AMR gonorrhoea outbreaks and how to manage them.

### **Activity 5**

Title: 5. To assist WHO's work in the provision of technical assistance to support preparedness for outbreak due to AMR pathogens, including technical assistance for IPC, AMS, diagnostic stewardship and clinical management

Description: Technical support provided by the institution will assist WHO's efforts towards building capacities in the Western-Pacific Region on outbreak preparedness due to AMR pathogens

Status: ongoing

Dr. Norio OHMAGARI, Dr. Nobuaki MATSUNAGA, and Dr. Yumiko FUJITOMO attended the Tokyo Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) One Health Conference and described the initiatives and achievements of Japan's National Action Plan on AMR (conducted by Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare) to the WPRO countries (28 February 2024). We also describe the role of the antimicrobial stewardship team (AST) in hospitals across Japan. We discussed the importance of AST and the systems implemented to support the appropriate use of antimicrobials, especially in prescribing antimicrobials without a prescription.

### Activity 6

Title: 6. To assist WHO's work in the provision of technical assistance to support antimicrobial consumption monitoring, through capacity building for WPR Member States and by providing technical support to WHO's activities in the contents of WPRACCS

Description: Technical expertise provided by the institution will assist WHO's efforts towards advancing antimicrobial consumption monitoring in the WPR region to improve antimicrobial stewardship

Status: ongoing

The AMR Clinical Reference Center analyzed and submitted antimicrobial sales volume information for the Western Pacific Region Antimicrobial Consumption Surveillance System (WPRACSS) launched by WPRO. Another data source, data on antimicrobial exports and production in Japan, is also being prepared.

Mr. Ryuji KOIZUMI reviewed and submitted applications for antimicrobials that are currently unregistered in the Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical/Defined Daily Dose System for Drug Statistics conducted by the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norway (NOR-11). We responded for approximately two days in January and August.

## 2. Annual report on other activities requested

**Should WHO have requested activities in addition to the agreed workplan, please describe related actions taken by your institution [maximum 200 words]. Please do not include in this report any activity done by your institution that was not requested by and agreed with WHO.**

Dr. Norio OHMAGARI attended "Meeting of The Bioregional Technical Advisory Group on The ASIA Pacific Strategy For Emerging Diseases And Public Health Emergencies (APSED III)" (June 2023) at the request of WPRO. He gave a technical advice to develop APSED III, especially in clinical management.

Dr. Norio OHMAGARI and Dr. Shinya TSUZUKI participated in the "Informal Consultation on Strengthening Surveillance Systems of Antimicrobial Resistance and Antimicrobial Consumption in the Western Pacific Region" (September 2023) based on the request of WPRO. Dr. OHMAGARI gave a presentation and chaired session. Dr. OHMAGARI emphasized the need for appropriate specimen collection at the hospital level to inform patient management and contribute quality data to AMR surveillance. Dr. OHMAGARI shared that mandatory reporting in Japan of some multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) as notifiable diseases, including carbapenemase producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE), supports the early detection and investigation of outbreaks. On the panel discussion, Dr. OHMAGARI discussed the complexities of AMR and AMC surveillance within the broader context of a One Health approach. They provided technical advice to improve surveillance systems for antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial consumption. They have also contributed to develop a poster for Japan and participated in the discussion.

Dr Kei YAMAMOTO reviewed and gave technical advice to update Cambodia AMR surveillance Standard Operation Procedures with request from WHO and the government of Cambodia. (Aug-Nov 2023).

Dr. Nobuaki MATSUNAGA and Dr. Masahiro ISHIKANE participated in the WHO Collaborating Centers on the 14th General Programme of Work (GPW14), 2025-2028" based on the request of WHO HQ (February 2024).

### 3. Resources

Indicate staff time spent on the implementation of activities agreed with WHO (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above). Do not include any data related to other activities done by your institution without the agreement of WHO. Please indicate staff time using the number of “full-day equivalents” – a day of work comprising 8 hours (e.g. 4 hours work per day for 7 days should be recorded as 3.5 full-day equivalents).

Number of staff involved (either partially or fully)

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
7	0	0

Number of full-day equivalents, total for all staff involved

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
200	0	0

Implementation of the agreed workplan activities (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above) normally require resources beyond staff-time, such as the use of laboratory facilities, purchasing of materials, travel, etc. Please estimate the costs of these other resources as a percentage of the total costs incurred (e.g. if you incurred costs of USD 100 and the value of your staff time was USD 50 which makes the total of USD 150, please report 33.3% and 66.7%).

Percentage of costs associated with staff time	Percentage of costs associated with other resources	Total
50.00	50.00	100.00

### 4. Networking

Describe any interactions or collaboration with other WHO Collaborating Centres in the context of the implementation of the agreed activities. If you are part of a network of WHO Collaborating Centres, please also mention the name of the network and describe your involvement in that network [maximum 200 words].

The AMCRC conducts surveys on the current coronavirus disease (COVID-19) status in Japan, particularly regarding AMR and antimicrobial usage associated with COVID-19, in collaboration with another WHO CC (Disease Control and Prevention Center, the National Center for Global Health and Medicine, JPN-94).

Dr. Norio OHMAGARI and Dr. Nobuaki MATSUNAGA attended the TATFAR (Transatlantic Taskforce on Antimicrobial Resistance) Meeting in Luxemburg and communicated about networking with Western countries (14-15, November, 2023).

Mr. Ryuji Kozumi attended the 4th WHO CC AMR Network Meeting in Buenos Aires and shared information on AMC and AMR surveillance and disease burden in each country (21-23 March 2023). In addition, we discuss directions for future research.

Of the several tasks decided at the meeting, we cooperate on the “Revision of National AMC methodology to include performance indicators.” The current progress awaits WHOCC coordination.