



Antibiotic resistance awareness Campaign

1/12/2017

Antibiotics and similar drugs, together called antimicrobial agents, have been used for the last 70 years to treat patients who have infectious diseases. Since the 1940s, these drugs have greatly reduced illness and death from infectious diseases. However, these drugs have been used so widely and for so long that the infectious organisms the antibiotics are designed to kill have adapted to them, making the drugs less effective (CDC, 2017).

Bacteria, not humans or animals, become antibiotic-resistant. These bacteria may infect humans and animals, and the infections they cause are harder to treat than those caused by non-resistant bacteria. Antibiotic resistance leads to higher medical costs, prolonged hospital stays, and increased mortality. The world urgently needs to change the way it prescribes and uses antibiotics. **Even if new medicines are developed, without behaviour change, antibiotic resistance will remain a major threat.** Behaviour changes must also include actions to reduce the spread of infections through vaccination, hand washing, practising safer sex, and good food hygiene (WHO, 2017).

INES-Ruhengeri as an Institute of Applied Fundamental Sciences, through the department of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences tried to raise awareness on antibiotics resistance to combat/prevent antibiotics loss of their effectiveness mostly due to misuse and overuse.

In this way, the department of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences organize a public lecture which held on 1st December 2017 to meet and fit with WHO global campaign on antibiotics handling with care.

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