WSC SPOTLIGHT: SEPSIS, PANDEMICS, AND ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE – GLOBAL HEALTH THREATS OF THE 21ST CENTURY

A Free Online Congress by the World Health Organization and the Global Sepsis Alliance

To be held completely online on 9 September 2020

Information and free registration: wscspotlight.org

#wscspotlight

Program Chairs:
Hanan Balkhy, Assistant Director-General, WHO
Konrad Reinhart, President, Global Sepsis Alliance
Welcome to the WSC Spotlight: Sepsis, Pandemics, and Antimicrobial Resistance - Global Health Threats of the 21st Century

On 9 September 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Global Sepsis Alliance (GSA) will host a co-organized World Sepsis Congress Spotlight. This free online event aims to review achievements, challenges, and potential solutions to combat the threat of sepsis worldwide.

Recognizing that most deaths from sepsis can be prevented by simple measures of infection prevention, vaccination, clean care, and early recognition, and that antimicrobial resistance (AMR) can jeopardize clinical management of sepsis, the Seventieth World Health Assembly (WHA) adopted a Resolution on Sepsis in 2017.

Highlighting the vast scale of sepsis as a global health threat, the ‘Global Burden of Disease Report’ estimated that sepsis, which can be caused by most infectious microorganisms, affected a staggering 48.9 million people and claimed 11 million lives worldwide in 2017. Manifestations of sepsis and septic shock are frequently the final pathway for emerging infectious disease threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent Ebola outbreaks, contributing to the overall global burden of sepsis.

In addition, the steadily growing threat of AMR contributes considerably to the enormous human, medical, and economic burden of infectious diseases. Outbreaks in hospitals of infections with resistant microorganisms are increasingly common. For example, the 3rd WHO Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System report published in 2020 found that the median resistance rates of Acinetobacter species (a common cause of hospital infections) were as high as 41.2% and 63.2% to aminoglycosides and carbapenems, respectively, with some countries already reporting 90-100% resistance.

The large and ever-increasing scale of both threats demands global attention, which is the objective of this congress. Over the course of 6 distinctive sessions, the WSC Spotlight will:

- Provide an overview of lessons and challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic and recent Ebola outbreaks in the global fight against sepsis and AMR
- Describe the current global epidemiology and burden of sepsis and AMR as well as explore a future research agenda
- Explore innovative, novel, and cost-effective approaches to preventing and combating sepsis and AMR

Like the 1st and 2nd WSC in 2016 and 2018, and the first WSC Spotlight in 2017, this free online congress brings together highly ranked representatives of international and national healthcare authorities, NGOs, policymakers, patients, patient advocacy groups, clinical scientists, researchers, and pioneers in healthcare improvement with the unified goal of improving AMR and sepsis healthcare around the world. As program chairs and on behalf of the World Health Organization and the Global Sepsis Alliance, we cordially invite you to join us for this free online congress at wscspotlight.org on 9 September 2020, just 4 days before the 9th World Sepsis Day on 13 September.

Hanan Balkhy, MD  
Assistant-Director General  
World Health Organization  
Antimicrobial Resistance

Konrad Reinhart, MD ML  
President Global Sepsis Alliance  
Senior & BiH Visiting Professor  
Charité University Hospital Berlin
### Session 1: Opening Session

**Wednesday, 9 September at 10:30h Berlin Time**

**Opening Remarks:** Hanan Balkhy, Assistant Director-General, World Health Organization, Switzerland  
**Chair:** Simon Finfer, Global Sepsis Alliance, Australia  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:35h BT</td>
<td>WHO Response to Global Health Threats: Sepsis, AMR, and COVID-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50h BT</td>
<td>Entering a New Era for Tackling AMR</td>
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<td>11:05h BT</td>
<td>Keynote: The Next Generation of Environmentally Friendly Antibiotics</td>
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<td>11:25h BT</td>
<td>Global Impact of COVID-19</td>
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<td>11:40h BT</td>
<td>Vaccination Saves Lives through Prevention of Sepsis</td>
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<td>11:55h BT</td>
<td>The Patient Safety Dimension</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:10h BT</td>
<td>The WHO Global Sepsis Epidemiology Report: Towards a Global Sepsis Research Agenda</td>
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### Time Zones

- **San Francisco** = **BT -9**
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- **New York** = **BT -6**
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- **Sydney** = **BT +8**
Session 2: The Epidemiology and Burden of Sepsis

Wednesday, 9 September at 12:30h Berlin Time

Chair: Niranjan ‘Tex’ Kissoon, Global Sepsis Alliance, Canada

12:30h Berlin Time

Keynote: The Global Burden of Sepsis
Kristina Rudd, University of Pittsburgh, United States of America

12:45h Berlin Time

The Burden of Maternal Sepsis in Fragile Populations
Zenaida Recidoro, National Safe Mother Program Department of Health, Philippines

13:00h Berlin Time

The Burden of Sepsis in Children and Neonates: Lessons Learned from Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)
Matthew Westercamp, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States of America

13:15h Berlin Time

Challenges in Implementing Sepsis and AMR Surveillance
Uduak Okomo, Medical Research Council Unit The Gambia at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, The Gambia

13:30h Berlin Time

Drivers of and Inequalities in the Burden of Sepsis in LMICs
Flavia Machado, Global Sepsis Alliance, Brazil

Session 3: Antimicrobial Resistance: An Emerging Global Health Threat

Wednesday, 9 September at 14:00h Berlin Time

Chair: Maha Talaat, World Health Organization, Egypt

14:00h Berlin Time

Keynote: One-Health-Approach to AMR and Global Health Threats
Ilaria Capua, Emerging Pathogens Institute, University of Florida, United States of America

14:15h Berlin Time

Novel Medicines Project: Driving Reinvestment in Research and Development and Responsible Antibiotic Use
Stephan Harbarth, Infection Control Programme, Geneva University Hospitals, Switzerland

14:30h Berlin Time

Cost-Effective Interventions to Combat AMR
Zhahirul Islam, International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh

14:45h Berlin Time

AMR in Neonates and Children with Sepsis in LMICs
Mike Sharland, St George’s University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, United Kingdom

15:00h Berlin Time

Antimicrobial Stewardship in Limiting MDROs
Jameela Alsalman, Ministry of Health, Bahrain

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### Session 4: Sepsis, Ebola, and COVID-19

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Content</th>
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</table>
| 15:30h Berlin Time | Keynote: WHO Clinical Response to Sepsis, COVID-19, and Ebola  
Janet Diaz, World Health Organization, United States of America |
| 15:45h Berlin Time | Managing Sepsis in COVID-19 Patients – Special Considerations  
Hala Abuzeid, Abu Dhabi Health Service, United Arab Emirates |
| 16:00h Berlin Time | COVID-19 Therapeutics: What We Have Learned and Where We Are Going  
Marco Cavaleri, European Medicines Agency, The Netherlands |
| 16:15h Berlin Time | Mobile Emergency Care Units Ebola Sepsis Improve Survival  
Richard Kojan, The Alliance for International Medical Action, Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| 16:30h Berlin Time | Inflammatory Response Due to COVID-19 Infection  
Yee Sin Leo, National Centre for Infectious Diseases, Singapore |

### Session 5: A Comprehensive and Integrated Approach to Preventing Sepsis and AMR

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Content</th>
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| 17:00h Berlin Time | Keynote: Preventing Infection and Improving Health in LMICs: Lessons Learned from Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Programmes  
Kelly Naylor, UNICEF, United States of America |
| 17:15h Berlin Time | WHO IPC Strategy to Prevent AMR and Sepsis  
Benedetta Allegranzi, World Health Organization, Switzerland |
| 17:30h Berlin Time | The Impact of BCG Vaccination on COVID-19 and Respiratory Infections  
Evangelos Giamarellos, European Sepsis Alliance, Greece |
| 17:45h Berlin Time | Preventing Sepsis and AMR in ICU Patients  
Mervyn Mer, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa |

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### Session 6: Early Identification and Appropriate Clinical Management of Sepsis Saves Lives and Prevents AMR

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18:30h Berlin Time</td>
<td><strong>Keynote:</strong> Bringing the Fight Against Sepsis to the Next Level</td>
<td>Konrad Reinhart, Global Sepsis Alliance, Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:45h Berlin Time</td>
<td>Management and Treatment of Possible Serious Bacterial Infection in Infants in Resource-Limited Settings</td>
<td>Shally Awasthi, King George’s Medical University, India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:00h Berlin Time</td>
<td>The Role of the Pathogen in the Management of Sepsis</td>
<td>Arjen Dondorp, Asia Pacific Sepsis Alliance, Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:15h Berlin Time</td>
<td>Pediatric Sepsis: Guidelines and More</td>
<td>Rana Sharara-Chami, American University of Beirut Medical Center, Lebanon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:30h Berlin Time</td>
<td>The Role of Sepsis and AMR for Patient Safety</td>
<td>Abdulelah Al-Hawsawi, Saudi Patient Safety Center, Saudi Arabia</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:45h Berlin Time</td>
<td>Closing Remarks:</td>
<td>Hanan Balkhy, Assistant Director-General, World Health Organization, Switzerland</td>
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<td>Niranjan ‘Tex’ Kissoon, Global Sepsis Alliance, Canada</td>
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If your organization is interested in supporting the promotion of the WSC Spotlight, please contact Marvin Zick. No financial support is requested, but we would like your organization to promote the congress among your members.

The WSC Spotlight:
Sepsis, Pandemics, and Antimicrobial Resistance – Global Health Threats of the 21st Century
is co-organized by the World Health Organization and
the Global Sepsis Alliance, initiator of World Sepsis Day and
World Sepsis Congress.

Global Sepsis Alliance
C/o Charité University Hospital
Hindenburgdamm 27 | 12203 Berlin | Germany
info@worldsepsisday.org
www.worldsepsisday.org

Stop Sepsis. Save Lives.