

One Health Aspects of Antimicrobial Resistance

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One Health



What is One Health?



The **One Health** concept recognizes that the health of people is connected to the health of animals and the environment.

All three sectors are interconnected and none of the three sectors can solve its problems alone

Interdisciplinary collaborations and communications in all aspects of healthcare of humans, animals and the environment are necessary.



Although the term "One Health" is fairly new, the concept has long been recognized, both nationally and globally.

Since the 1800s, scientists have noted the similarity in disease processes among animals and humans, but human and animal medicine were practiced separately until the 20th century.







Rudolf Virchow, MD (1821 – 1902), was one of the most famous physicians of the 19th century. Dr. Virchow was a German pathologist who became interested in the linkages between human and veterinary medicine while studying a roundworm, *Trichinella spiralis*, in swine.

He coined the term "zoonosis" to indicate an infectious disease that is passed between humans and animals.

He emphasized, "Between animal and human medicine there are no dividing lines, nor should there be. The object is different, but the experience obtained constitutes the basis of all medicine."





Dr. Calvin Schwabe (1927 – 2006) was the founding chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at the Veterinary School at the University of California in Davis.

In his textbook, Veterinary Medicine and Human Health, Dr. Schwabe coined the term "One Medicine."

The term emphasized the similarities between human and veterinary medicine and the need for collaboration to effectively cure, prevent, and control illnesses that affect both humans and animals.



- Nowadays, "One Medicine" is commonly referred to as "One Health" worldwide. This change in terminology occurred during the first decade of the 21st century.
- One Health" recognizes that humans do not exist in isolation, but are a part of a larger whole, a living ecosystem, and that activities of each member affect the others.



Every individual does not live in isolation – humans and animals are often part of larger communities





Humans have different interactions with animals: private and occupational contact. Pet/companion animals are often considered as family members.





As our population expands, wildlife habitats are disappearing and the contact between humans and wild animals increases, introducing the risk of exposure to new viruses, bacteria and other disease-causing pathogens.





Global trade is easy and global travel is fast. Viruses and bacteria do not stop at borders, giving previously isolated outbreaks a pandemic potential.

H1N1 global invasion by air travel (March - mid May)





The world's total population is expected to exceed 9 billion by 2050 and will require the food supply to double. Only healthy food-producing animals will provide high quality food.











Carbapenemaseproducing Gram-negative bacteria



Carbapenems

- Carbapenems (imipenem, ertapenem, meropenem) are NOT approved for use in veterinary medicine.
- Carbapenems must not be used in food-producing animals.
- Carbapenems may be used in companion and pet animals in defined cases according to AMDUCA (Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act), i.e. when no other suitable antimicrobial approved for veterinary use is available.
- Carbapenem resistance is based on the expression of various bla genes, e.g. bla_{KPC}, bla_{OXA-23, -48, -58}, bla_{VIM-1, -2}, bla_{IMP-4, -45}, bla_{NDM-1}, which are often co-located with other resistance genes on the same mobile genetic element.





J Antimicrob Chemother 2014 doi:10.1093/jac/dku133 Advance Access publication 28 April 2014

IMP-45-producing multidrug-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* of canine origin

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P. aeruginosa isolate M140A was obtained from the anal swab of a healthy 3-month-old female German Shepherd dog admitted in June 2013 to the Animal Teaching Hospital of the China Agricultural University in Beijing, China, for routine vaccination against canine parvovirus infection.





Wang Y et al. JAC (2014) 69: 2579-81



Veterinary Microbiology 171 (2014) 290-297



An emerging public health problem: Acquired carbapenemase-producing microorganisms are present in food-producing animals, their environment, companion animals and wild birds

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J Antimicrob Chemother 2014; **69**: 1155–1157 doi:10.1093/jac/dkt518 Advance Access publication 6 January 2014 Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy

Carbapenemase-producing bacteria in companion animals: a public health concern on the horizon

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The emergence of carbapenemase-producing bacteria in companion animals is of great concern because of the close contact between humans and their pets, and the potential for cross-species transmission. J Antimicrob Chemother 2014 doi:10.1093/jac/dku054 Advance Access publication 26 February 2014



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The real threat related to carbapenem resistance in humans comes from:

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- (1) the increased consumption of carbapenems in humans worldwide, and
- (2) the overall increase in human population movements worldwide, including migration and tourism.

J Antimicrob Chemother 2014 doi:10.1093/jac/dku054 Advance Access publication 26 February 2014



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Taking into account the paucity of reports of carbapenemase producers in animals, and the fact that carbapenems are not used in food-producing animals, the risk to public health remains marginal.





Conclusion I

- Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae, but also non-Enterobacteriaceae occur in food-producing animals, pet and companion animals and even wild animals.
- As carbapenems are forbidden in food-producing animals and are rarely used in non-food-producing animals, carbapenem resistance in animals may be the result of a "spill-over" from humans or from environmental contaminations.
- Actually, we do not know whether carbapenem resistance in animals is a rare finding or the <u>"tip of an iceberg</u>", which may point to a larger public health problem.



Transferable linezolid/tedizolid resistance in Gram-positive cocci



Oxazolidinones - Linezolid

- Linezolid (Zyvox[®]) was the first oxazolidinone approved for use in human medicine (April 2000)
- Linezolid is a last resort antimicrobial agent for the control of severe infections due to Gram-positive bacteria, e.g. MRSA, VRE
- > Linezolid is **NOT** approved for use in veterinary medicine





Oxazolidinones - Tedizolid

- Tedizolid (Syvextro[®]) was the second oxazolidinone approved for use in human medicine (June 2014)
- Tedizolid has improved activity against *cfr*-carrying bacteria
- Tedizolid is NOT approved for use in veterinary medicine







First tedizolid resistance gene

J Antimicrob Chemother 2015; **70**: 2182–2190 doi:10.1093/jac/dkv116 Advance Access publication 14 May 2015 Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy

A novel gene, optrA, that confers transferable resistance to oxazolidinones and phenicols and its presence in Enterococcus faecalis and Enterococcus faecium of human and animal origin

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Transferable tedizolid resistance

The gene optrA codes for a 655-aa ABC-F protein that confers combined resistance not only to linezolid and tedizolid, but also to phenicols.



Wang et al. (2015) J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 70: 2182-90.



optrA among enterococci from humans and animals



 12/595 (2.0%) enterococci from clinical infections of humans (1998-2014) were optrA-positive

 37/149 (24.8%)
enterococci from pigs and 9/141 (6.4%)
enterococci from
chickens (2009-2013)
were optrA-positive

Wang et al. (2015) J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 70: 2182-90.



Comparison of *optrA*-positive *E. faecalis* isolates from humans and animals



E. faecalis isolates from humans (H) and pigs (P) exhibiting the same MLST type and indistinguishable PFGE patterns

Exchange of the respective isolates between humans and animals

Wang et al. (2015) J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 70: 2182-90.



Comparison of *optrA*-carrying plasmids of *E. faecalis* from humans and animals

pXY17 (pig, ST27) , pE161 (human, ST585), pE071 (human, ST480)

pSF35 (chicken, ST330), pG22 (pig, ST116)

pE419 (human, ST480)

pFX13 (human, ST622)





Comparison of *optrA*-carrying plasmids of *E. faecalis* from humans and animals



Plasmids of similar size that carry the same *optrA* gene region were found in *E. faecalis* isolates of diverse MLST types and diverse origins.



Horizontal transfer of mobile resistance genes

intraspecies transfer (*E. faecalis* \leftrightarrow *E. faecalis*)

interspecies transfer (*E. faecalis* \leftrightarrow *E. faecium*)

intergenus transfer (E. faecalis \leftrightarrow Staphylococcus) \checkmark optrA





Intergenus transfer of *optrA* from enterococci to staphylococci





Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy

J Antimicrob Chemother doi:10.1093/jac/dky009

Presence and molecular characteristics of oxazolidinone resistance in staphylococci from household animals in rural China

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Received 8 September 2017; returned 31 October 2017; revised 28 November 2017; accepted 2 January 2018

Sun et al. (2018) J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 73: 1194-1200.



Detection of optrA in CoNS from pigs, dogs and cats



Staphylococcus sciuri, Staphylococcus simulans





Staphylococcus sciuri

Staphylococcus sciuri

Sun et al. (2018) J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 73: 1194-1200.



Conclusion II

- Oxazolidinone resistance is often based on resistance genes, such as *cfr* and *optrA* (horizontal & vertical gene transfer).
- Oxazolidinone-resistant bacteria can be exchanged among humans, animals and the environment.
- Plasmids play an important role in the dissemination of oxazolidinone resistance genes.
- Although oxazolidinones are not approved for veterinary use, oxazolidinone resistance genes are present among bacteria of animals.
- Direct selection and co-selection by other antimicrobial agents are of major relevance in the dissemination of oxazolidinone resistance genes.



Concluding remarks



The One Health Triad



Antimicrobial resistance is the "example par excellence" that illustrates how humans, animals and the environment are interconnected.



Virtually the same classes of antimicrobial agents are used in human medicine, veterinary medicine, and - in part - also in horticulture to combat bacterial infections.





There is transmission of resistant bacteria (and their resistance genes) between animals, humans, and the environment.





- A One Health approach dealing with antimicrobial resistance will require a better understanding of the relative importance of humans, animals and the environment in:
 - the evolution of antimicrobial resistant bacteria and their genetic determinants,
 - the ways in which they interact, and
 - the transmission routes and mechanisms involved.



National research consortia in which groups from human and veterinary medicine interact:







International research consortia in which groups from human and veterinary medicine interact:

Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance



