



**Joint ECDC-WHO/Europe Meeting
of the ARHAI Networks
Copenhagen, Denmark
11-15 June 2018**

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Scope and purpose

The Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly adopted the Global Action Plan (GAP) on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in May 2015. Important elements of the GAP and the European strategic action plan on antibiotic resistance¹ include strengthening surveillance of antibiotic consumption and resistance in healthcare settings and the community, and promoting strategies for the rational use of antibiotics and infection prevention and control programmes.

The programme on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections (ARHAI) at the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) coordinates three surveillance networks for Member States of the European Union and the European Economic Area (EU/EEA) that are related to antimicrobial resistance: the European Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance network (EARS-Net), the European Surveillance of Antimicrobial Consumption network (ESAC-Net) and the Healthcare-Associated Infections Surveillance network (HAI-Net). Through those networks, information is gathered on the trends and sources of antimicrobial resistance, antimicrobial medicines consumption and healthcare-associated infections in the European Union.

To extend the overview of the AMR threat throughout the European region, WHO/Europe has established compatible surveillance networks for the non-EU/EEA countries and area: the Central Asian and Eastern European Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance network (CAESAR), and the Antimicrobial Medicines Consumption network (AMC). Work on healthcare-associated infections has been initiated but currently no regional network has been formed.

This Joint ECDC-WHO/Europe Meeting of the ARHAI Networks will bring together all European surveillance networks in the area to share experience and good practices, and to discuss future collaboration and joint activities across the European region.

During the course of the week, there will be parallel sessions for the individual networks, joint sessions for the complementary networks, as well as plenary sessions with topics and discussions that are of interest to all networks. At the end of the week, all participants will have an overview of the work that is ongoing in their own field as well as in related fields, and all networks will agree on the future perspective of surveillance work in the European region and beyond.

¹ [EUR/RC61/14 European strategic action plan on antibiotic resistance](#)