

Questions raised on Antibiotics - November 2014

Antibiotics

Department of Health

25th November 2014



Nicholas Dakin Opposition Whip (Commons) @ 25th November 2014

To ask the [Secretary of State](#) for Health, what guidance he issues on the commissioning of novel antibiotics designed to treat life-threatening infections at a national level through [NHS England's](#) specialised commissioning system.



Daniel Poulter The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health @ 25th November 2014

Generally antibiotic use is determined locally and is driven by microbiology departments and by local antibiotic resistance patterns. There are two specific areas of specialised commissioning where provisions for antibiotics are relevant. A national policy for cystic fibrosis is already available (<http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/a01-ps-a.pdf>) and a policy covering treatment of multi drug resistant tuberculosis (TB) is being developed. This new policy should be introduced from April 2015 and hopes to set policy for Bedaquiline and possibly Delamanid, two drugs recently launched into the United Kingdom market for multidrug resistant TB.

Infectious Diseases

Department of Health

25th November 2014



Jim Shannon Shadow DUP Spokesperson (Health) @ 25th November 2014

To ask the [Secretary of State](#) for Health, what research he has commissioned on the use of on-the-spot testing for infections and the effect of this on the use of antibiotics.



George Freeman The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills @ 25th November 2014

The Department recently commissioned a review of diagnostics in use or in development for point-of-care testing for infectious disease. This will support the development of better antibiotic prescribing practice. The review has been carried out by the [University of Oxford](#). The report has now been received by the Department and publication plans are being developed.

The [National Institute for Health Research](#) is funding a £1.4 million study of primary care use of a C-Reactive Protein point-of-care test to help target antibiotic prescribing to patients with acute exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease who are most likely to benefit. The report is expected to be published in February 2018.

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26th November 2014



Nicholas Dakin Opposition Whip (Commons) @ 26th November 2014

To ask the [Secretary of State](#) for Health, if his Department will assess the effect that the creation of a centrally maintained list of priority pathogens would have on encouraging innovation within the field of antibiotic research and development.



George Freeman The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills @ 26th November 2014

Key pathogens are already identified in [The UK Five Year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy 2013 to 2018](#) and our expert advisory committee regularly reviews the specified combinations of bacteria and associated drug resistance. A copy of the Strategy has been attached.

[The UK five year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy](#) (PDF Document, 429.08 KB)



Nicholas Dakin Opposition Whip (Commons) @ 26th November 2014

To ask the [Secretary of State](#) for Health, if he will direct the [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence](#) to assess the clinical and cost-effectiveness of emerging novel antibiotics in order to prove their value and inform the appropriate adoption of such products within the parameters of local and national [NHS](#) antibiotic stewardship programmes.



George Freeman The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills @ 26th November 2014

The Department welcomes new developments in antibiotic treatments. We will work to ensure that promising new treatments are referred to the [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence](#), where appropriate.