

PRESS RELEASE

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European Hospitals and the AMR Challenge: From Control to Prevention

The European University Hospital Alliance (EUHA) is pleased to announce the release of its new Position Paper, “European Hospitals and the AMR Challenge. From Control to Prevention: How University Hospitals Can Prevent, Prepare, and Protect Against Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance”. This paper was developed through a detailed survey of experts at EUHA university hospitals, complemented with in-depth interviews with clinicians, scientists and patient organisations. The research, conducted between June and September 2025 and supported by input from EUHA, the Danish AMR Alliance and partners, informed the development of (a) concrete commitments by university hospitals and (b) proposals for policies that would support this effort.

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) threatens public health and the sustainability of European health systems. EU leaders have pledged to step up action, and university hospitals are committed to playing a key role in facing this shared challenge. This paper adds evidence, ideas and momentum to these efforts.

EUHA recognises the responsibility of university hospitals to *lead by doing* — improving infection prevention and control, strengthening surveillance and monitoring, delivering teaching and training, and engaging proactively with partners across health and social care. EUHA members are already advancing these priorities, and further political support—together with progress in hospital and digital infrastructure—can enable Europe to move further and faster.

AMR demands a concerted and coordinated response. It is time for a new collaboration between hospitals and policymakers, with each doing all in their power to prevent, prepare and protect against infections and antimicrobial resistance – supporting one another in this shared public health mission.

What Will Hospitals Do?

- Collect and share good practices within networks of university hospitals by 2030
- Prioritise the highest standards of antibiotic stewardship and embed this in teaching activities
- Train health and social stakeholders to play their part in fighting AMR
- Optimise hospital design with input from IPC teams
- Enhance infection prevention policies, including risk assessment for AMR, outbreak management and isolation precautions
- Embrace the latest technologies, including digital tools and AI

- Enhance laboratory capacity for rapid diagnostic tests and genotyping
- Encourage vaccination, screen at-risk patients and support vaccine research
- Engage with the public to raise awareness of AMR and empower them to become active partners.

What Can Policymakers Do?

- Integrate hospital perspectives in policies on pandemic preparedness and crisis planning
- Invest in research and innovation to generate and disseminate best practices
- Support the development of improved diagnostics, as well as new vaccines and vaccine acceptance
- Implement standards on stewardship & monitoring
- Develop and implement guidelines on safer hospital design
- Ensure an environment where researching AMR is attractive for academia
- Keep AMR on the health policy agenda, integrating it into other health strategies where relevant
- Prioritise efforts to ensure high adherence to vaccination programmes, to contain infection rates and thus, maintain low use of antimicrobials.

Expressions of Support

The paper is now open to individuals or entities who wish to express their support. Quotes or statements of support are welcome to be received at secretariat@euhalliance.eu. Please note that expressions of support may be used for promotional purposes.

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About EUHA

The European University Hospital Alliance, founded in 2017, is formed of 11 leading European university hospitals. University hospitals play an essential role in healthcare systems and society, taking care of the most complex patients, performing research, pioneering healthcare and innovation, and training the next generation of healthcare professionals.

The members of EUHA are:

- Aarhus University Hospital
- Vall d'Hebron Barcelona Hospital Campus
- Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
- HUS Helsinki University Hospital
- UZ Leuven
- King's Health Partners
- Ospedale San Raffaele
- Assistance Publique – Hôpitaux de Paris
- Erasmus MC University Medical Centre
- University Hospital Vienna & Medical University Vienna
- Karolinska University Hospital & Karolinska Institutet

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