The country’s National Action Plan (NAP) on antimicrobial resistance is linked and aligned with other existing action plans, strategies and objectives related to HIV.

In line with the Regional Action Plan and the Global Action Plan, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO progress with the development and implementation of a NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR).

In line with the Regional Action Plan and the Global Action Plan

The country’s National Action Plan (NAP) on antimicrobial resistance is linked and aligned with other existing action plans, strategies and objectives related to HIV.

National Action Plans & Governance

A Multi-sectoral working group on AMR is established with Government leadership.
Awareness & Education

Trinidad and Tobago has implemented some activities in parts of the country to raise awareness about risks in all sectors of antibiotic resistance and actions that can be taken to address it.

- There are Ad hoc AMR training courses in some human health related disciplines.
- There are tailored AMR training courses routinely available nationwide for all key stakeholders and completion of training is a formal requirement.
- The core curricula for graduating veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals cover AMR and appropriate use of antimicrobials.
- Veterinary services are assessed and there are plans developed to improve its capacity.

Regulation

Antimicrobials are prescribed by their International Nonproprietary Name (INN) in the public and private sector. Facilitating the identification of active ingredients and other pharmaceuticals.

It is necessary to enforce regulations to ensure that antibiotics are sold and acquired only by prescription in all the Country.

The AMR National Action Plan include an operational framework for implementation. There is a multisectoral group on AMR functioning with clear terms of reference, regular meetings. Its activities have clear definitions and timeline.

Funding allocation and establishment of mechanisms for funding and accountability are recommended to ensure the the multi-sectoral

Health Approach, Governance and Collaboration

The AMR National Action Plan addresses the full One Health spectrum in line with the regional action plan on AMR and the global action plan on AMR.

Funding allocation and establishment of mechanisms for funding and accountability are recommended to ensure the the multi-sectoral
AMR Surveillance

- There is a presence of national AMR surveillance system in human AMR, data is collected locally for common bacteria.
- The collected data should have a standardized approach and there should be national coordination or quality management.
- There are future plans towards establishing national surveillance on AMR.
- The country must participate in global and regional AMR surveillance in Human platforms this will help to get the main goal.

Surveillance of Antimicrobial Use/Consumption

- The National legislation covers some aspects of manufacture, import, marketing authorization, control of safety, quality and efficacy and distribution of antimicrobial products.
- Medicines and other health technologies are incorporated by the public sector using an official mechanism that includes HTA-based selection criteria.
- There is an urgency to: Create a national surveillance system for monitoring antimicrobial use/consumption/sales, and rational use of antimicrobials in human health.

Infection Prevention and Control

- A national IPC program and operational plan are available and national guidelines for health care IPC is available and disseminated.

Antimicrobial Stewardship & Optimizing

- It is urgent for Trinidad and Tobago to create programs for optimizing antimicrobial use in human health and create funded national antimicrobial stewardship program.
- There are future plans for creating the guidelines for antimicrobial use.
- National legislation covers some aspects of national manufacture, import, marketing authorization, control of safety, quality and efficacy and distribution of antimicrobial products.
- There is an urgency to: Create a national surveillance system for monitoring antimicrobial use/consumption/sales, and rational use of antimicrobials in human health.

Infection Prevention and Control Policies and Guidelines for Health Care

Established in June 2011.

PRIORITY SPECIMENS AND PATHOGENS FOR SURVEILLANCE OF AMR*  
*In line with Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (GLASS)

PAHO protocol recommends to start with blood infections for the following pathogens:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blood</th>
<th>Laboratory case definition</th>
<th>Surveillance type and sampling setting</th>
<th>Priority pathogens for surveillance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Isolation of pathogen from blood</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
<td>Acinetobacter baumannii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Patients in hospital and in the community</td>
<td>Escherichia coli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Klebsiella pneumoniae</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Enterobacteriaceae (other)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pseudomonas aeruginosa**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once you have attended blood infections, PAHO recommends to follow with:

- E. coli
- K. pneumoniae
- Salmonella spp.
- Shigella spp.
- N. gonorrhoeae

This pathogens are not included in GLASS but are part of PAHO recommendations

PAHO recommends to start as soon as possible the creation of a National Coordination Center (NCC) and a National Reference Laboratory.

HOW TO CREATE AN AMR SURVEILLANCE NATIONAL COORDINATION CENTER (NCC)?

- Coordinate surveillance network
- Coordinate and support data collection
- Maintain national AMR surveillance database
- Data quality assurance and feedback
- Data analysis and reporting
- Develop national surveillance protocol

WHAT SHOULD A NATIONAL AMR REFERENCE LABORATORY DO?

- Develop methodological standards
- Provide training
- Support capacity building
- Molecular testing
- Confirmatory testing
- Support quality assurance