International effort needed to contain growing antibiotic resistance

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Since their discovery, antimicrobial therapies (AMTs) have played an essential role in the treatment of infections in humans and animals and have significantly improved population health. Many of the improvements in mortality and morbidity that modern medicine has secured are largely based on our ability to prevent and cure infections. The introduction of AMTs has, for example, markedly decreased the burden of infectious diseases (e.g. pneumonia and tuberculosis) and, by preventing hospital-acquired infections, has allowed the introduction of complex medical interventions such as organ transplantations, advanced surgery and care of premature babies.

All these applications are now endangered by the increasing spread of microbes that are resistant to antimicrobial medications. Resistance to antimicrobials is a natural phenomenon as old as the development of antimicrobials. However, in more recent years this phenomenon has been amplified and accelerated by a number of factors and modern healthcare rely on AMTs that may become ineffective.

there is a strong case for G7 action in the area of AMR. The G7 has consistently committed itself to tackling global health challenges, including the fight against infectious diseases, and positioned itself as a leading partner in reaching health-related Millennium Development Goals, by initiating and supporting many global instruments of response to threats posed by infectious diseases.

Read full, original post: Antimicrobial Resistance in G7 Countries and Beyond