

# Educating the workforce in AMR - too many gimmicks or coming up trumps?

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# Curriculum challenges

- time pressures on content
- Systems-based/Problem-based/Case-based learning
- Infection is not a 'system' so teaching can be piecemeal



Public Health  
England

ARHAI

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Journal of Hospital Infection

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Antimicrobial  
stewardship

## Development of consensus-based national antimicrobial stewardship competencies for UK undergraduate healthcare professional education

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## Embedding national antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship competences into curricula

A survey of health education institutions  
Executive summary

COMPETENCY	Dentistry	Pharmacy	Medicine	Midwifery	Nursing	Indep prescr	Allied Health
1: Infection prevention and control.	100%	98%	99%	85%	86%	72%	94%
2: Antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobials.	97%	100%	99%	59%	56%	75%	41%
3: Prescribing antimicrobials.	88%	81%	96%	41%	29%	90%	30%
4: Antimicrobial stewardship.	73%	77%	91%	51%	42%	77%	25%
5: Monitoring and learning	50%	48%	63%	23%	16%	68%	14%
Total average	82%	81%	90%	52%	46%	76%	41%



The British Society for  
Antimicrobial Chemotherapy



Survey of Infection and  
Antimicrobial-Use Teaching to  
Medical and Veterinary Medicine  
Undergraduates in the UK.

Abi Jenkins, Felisha Johnson and Laura JV Piddock

**‘Teaching in antimicrobials and infection management comprises a tiny part of medical education with the range reported in this survey as 12---249 hours, compared to a total teaching time in excess of 5,000 hours over 5 years’\***

\*14 medical schools responded

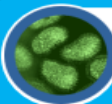




**Tobamovirus**  
**Tob-A-Mo-Virus**  
**Virus**

Max Size (nm)	18
Number of species	125
Danger to humans	12
Usefulness to humans	34
Antibiotic resistance	N/A

*Tobamovirus* are a group of viruses that infect plants, the most common being tobacco mosaic virus, which infects tobacco and other plants causing a mosaic like discoloration on the leaves. This virus has been very useful in scientific research.



**Influenza A**  
**In-Flu-En-Za A**  
**Virus**

Max Size (nm)	90
Number of species	1
Danger to humans	146
Usefulness to humans	12
Antibiotic resistance	N/A

The flu is an infection caused by *Orthomyxoviridae* 40% of the population get the flu but most people recover completely in a couple of weeks. In 1918, before there were any vaccines for the flu, twenty million people were killed!



**Lyssavirus**  
**Lice-A-Virus**  
**Virus**

Max Size (nm)	180
Number of species	10
Danger to humans	74
Usefulness to humans	5
Antibiotic resistance	N/A

The *Lyssavirus* infect both plants and animals. The most common *Lyssavirus* is the Rabies virus and is usually associated with dogs. Rabies has been responsible for over 55,000 deaths worldwide but can be prevented by vaccination.



**Ebola**  
**E-Bowl-Ah**  
**Virus**

Max Size (nm)	1500
Number of species	1
Danger to humans	200
Usefulness to humans	0
Antibiotic resistance	N/A

*Filovirus* causes a disease more commonly known as Ebola. It is one of the more dangerous viruses known to humans due to the fact that there is no known preventative vaccine or treatment. 50 – 90% of victims die from the disease!



**Lymphocryptovirus**  
**Lim-Fos-Cryp-Toe-Virus**  
**Virus**

Max Size (nm)	110
Number of species	7
Danger to humans	37
Usefulness to humans	2
Antibiotic resistance	N/A

The Epstein-Barr virus is a type of *Lymphocryptovirus* causing an illness known as the Kissing Disease or Glandular fever. Patients suffer from sore throats, swollen lymph glands, and extreme tiredness. Transmission requires close contact such as kissing or sharing drinks.



**Simplex Virus**  
**Sim-Plex Virus**  
**Virus**

Max Size (nm)	200
Number of species	2
Danger to humans	64
Usefulness to humans	2
Antibiotic resistance	N/A

*Herpes simplex* is one of the oldest known sexually transmitted infections. In many cases, *Herpes* infections produce no symptoms at all but unsightly scab-like symptoms do occur in about one third of people infected.



**Rhinovirus**  
**Rhino-Virus**  
**Virus**

Max Size (nm)	25
Number of species	2
Danger to humans	28
Usefulness to humans	14
Antibiotic resistance	N/A

There are over 250 different kinds of cold viruses! But *Rhinovirus* is by far the most common. *Rhinoviruses* are responsible for almost 35% of colds. *Rhinovirus* can survive three hours outside someone's nose. If it gets on your fingers and you rub your nose, you've caught it!



**Varicellovirus**  
**Var-E-Cell-O-Virus**  
**Virus**

Max Size (nm)	200
Number of species	2
Danger to humans	21
Usefulness to humans	7
Antibiotic resistance	N/A

Chickenpox is caused by the *Varicella-Zoster* virus. It is highly contagious although rarely serious and is spread through direct contact (or coughing and sneezing). Almost everyone caught chickenpox in their childhood prior to the discovery of the chickenpox vaccine.







## Clarithromycin

Oral in pneumonia



## Flucloxacillin

Beta-lactam group

Main use: staphylococcal infections

- Gram positive cover
- Staphylococcus aureus only
- Gram negative cover
- Toxicity allergy
- Ease of administration Oral/i.v., but frequent dosing



## Gentamicin

Aminoglycoside group  
Main use: serious Gram negative sepsis



## Cephalosporins



## Vancomycin

Glycopeptide group

Main use: serious Gram positive infections e.g. MRSA

- Gram positive cover 10
- Gram negative cover 0
- Toxicity 6
- Red man syndrome
- Some kidney toxicity
- Ease of administration i.v. only, check levels 2



## Clavulanic acid

Beta-lactam group  
Main use: varied, broad spectrum  
Gram positive cover  
Gram negative cover



## Ciprofloxacin

Quinolone group  
Main uses: Pseudomonas sp



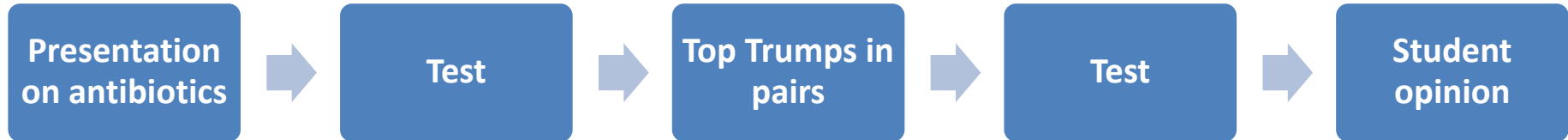
## Carbapenems

Beta-lactam group  
Main use: critical care broad spectrum  
Gram positive cover  
Gram negative cover

Covers anaerobes

# Evaluation

36 1<sup>st</sup> year medical students



# Note to self!

- Many students don't know Top Trumps rules!



# Student opinion

- 23/36 said they found the Top Trumps useful
- 10/36 said they did not find them useful
- 1 response: 'yes and no'

# Student comments

Fun but  
not helpful  
to learn

Wasn't really  
paying attention  
to what drug was  
on each card, just  
the stats

Not really useful  
but entertaining

I did not remember or  
learn anything from  
the Top Trumps

Focus too much  
on numbers when  
playing and not  
actual cards

Too fast paced  
to take anything  
in properly

# Student comments

Really good  
revision aids  
(x3)

Really liked them,  
thought the  
numerical G +ve/G-ve  
rating was helpful  
and the pictures were  
nice

I love them,  
clarithromycin  
is very cute

They were a great  
addition to the  
presentation, thank you!

Fun very useful way  
to apply knowledge  
– would love to have  
them available for  
myself

The more  
learning  
methods the  
better!

Fun

# Results

- 14/36 students had higher score after Top Trumps
- 10/36 students had lower score
- Total number of marks scored by all students increased from 136 to 145 (6% improvement)

# Conclusions

- A bit of fun
- *Not* very successful at enhancing student knowledge
- Useful as:
  - ice-breaker
  - possibly revision aid
  - to break up didactic teaching sessions





HM Government

# **Tackling antimicrobial resistance 2019–2024**

**The UK's five-year national action plan**

Published 24 January 2019

## Medical Licensing Assessment

Ensuring AMR & Stewardship is properly represented in  
MLA

Medical schools will be reviewing curricula -  
opportunity to be involved



The Royal College of Pathologists  
Pathology: the science behind the cure

## Pathology Undergraduate Curriculum

September 2014





### Guidance on prescri

#### F1 and F2

Prescribes using all ava  
formularies, pharmaci  
accurate, safe and eff  
that legal responsibilit

Prescribes according to  
antimicrobial therapy,  
prescribing and the de

## RCPATH response to Foundation Programme Curriculum consultation

Section 3, 'Prescribes safely' should include much more comprehensive reference to antimicrobial stewardship, similar to ...Infection Control in Section 4...specific reference to principles of good antimicrobial stewardship, including prompt review of all antibiotic prescriptions, and iv to oral switch.

- Lots happening in undergraduate and Foundation curricula at present
- An opportunity to ensure antimicrobial stewardship is firmly at their core
- Balance between innovation in teaching and efficacy...

**Thank you**

