



World Health
Organization

European Region

Professional updates on managing common infections in primary care



26 May - 5 June 2026

Register now, spaces
are limited!

A focus on antimicrobial
stewardship

The guidelines changed again, I don't have time to keep up!

Which antibiotic, what dose, for how long?

It looks viral. But what if it isn't?


What if I don't prescribe and they end up in hospital?



The patient expects a prescription. It's easier to just write it.

THE FRONT LINE IS YOUR DESK

80-90% of antibiotics are prescribed in primary care



This course gives primary care clinicians the coaching, tools, and expert support to lead effective antibiotic prescribing

A focused 6-day crash course in antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) for primary care offering practical tools and strategies to strengthen AMS activities in outpatient settings and to reduce unnecessary antibiotic use without compromising care.



26 May - 5 June 2026
Register [here](#).

Course overview:

- **26 May:** The Human Face of AMR: Core AMS Principles Every Primary Care Clinician Must Own
- **27 May:** From Symptoms to Solutions: Confident Antibiotic Decisions for the Most Common Infections in Adults, Including the Elderly
- **29 May:** Beyond the Usual Suspects: Smarter Antimicrobial Stewardship for STIs, TB & HIV in Primary Care
- **2-3 June:** From Symptoms to Solutions: Confident Antibiotic Decisions for the Most Common Infections in Children; and Safe Prescribing and Vaccination In Pregnancy & Breastfeeding
- **5 June:** From Swabs to Scripts: Smarter Testing and Better Patient Conversations

What Makes This Course Different:

- Practical tools and real-world clinical scenarios.
- Expert-led plenary sessions.
- Focus on actions to optimise prescribing behaviour.



Candidates

This course is primarily targeted to clinically active physicians in the WHO European Region. The course is also open to healthcare professionals working in primary care settings globally. Participants are encouraged to familiarise themselves with relevant WHO resources.



Faculty

Learn from leading AMS and AMR experts from WHO Collaborating Centres, public health agencies, and top hospitals globally. These are the clinicians and researchers shaping global stewardship policy that can bring practical, real-world expertise directly to your practice.



Programme Format and Commitment

Activities will be conducted online in English over a six-day period between 26 May and 5 June 2026 at 16:00-18:00 CEST. Sessions include expert presentations, case examples, and opportunities for Q&A.



The Human Face of AMR: Core AMS Principles Every Primary Care Clinician Must Own

Clinicians need a clear, practical understanding of stewardship principles tailored to outpatient realities. This session will cover:

- Core AMS concepts
- Why primary care is central to AMR control
- How AMS fits into daily workflow
- AMU monitoring, audit and feedback in PHC

Tuesday 26 May 2026
16:00-18:00 CEST



Dr Malin Grape

Dr Grape is a Senior Adviser for AMR for the WHO European Office. She led Sweden's national AMR programme and later served for three years as the country's AMR Ambassador. She now works on pharmaceutical preparedness for communicable diseases and civil defence at Public Health Agency of Sweden.



Dr Anna-Lena Fasten

Dr Fasten is a medical doctor, a specialist in family medicine with a Master of Science in Public Health. Working for Strama in Stockholm, Sweden, she visits primary health care centres in the region to discuss their antibiotic use and help identify potential areas for improvement in line with current guidelines.



Krista Bracke

Krista is a former journalist of the Belgian National Radio. In 2009 she tumbled into a second life after life-threatening sepsis and septic shock. She advocates for sepsis awareness and AMR as a member of the patient and family working group of the European and the Global Sepsis Alliance. She is also the coordinator of Sepsis Stronger Together.



Dr Albert Figueras

Dr Figueras is a clinical pharmacologist and a former Professor of Pharmacology and Pharmacoepidemiology, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain) and EU2P (France). He is a WHO consultant on appropriate and safe use of medicines.

From Symptoms to Solutions: Confident Antibiotic Decisions for the Most Common Infections in Adults, Including the Elderly

The heart of prescribing behaviour change, this session will cover:

- Evidence-based indications
- First-line vs. second-line choices
- Duration of therapy
- Clinical decision pathways
- Red flags vs. self-limiting illness
- When **not** to prescribe
- Symptomatic management

The session will focus on common infections such as RTIs, UTIs, SSTIs, Sinusitis.

Wednesday 27 May 2026
16:00-18:00 CEST



Dr Marisa Holubar

Dr Holubar is a Clinical Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine, the Director of Stanford Health's Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, and co-director of the WHO Collaborating Center for Antimicrobial Stewardship and Antimicrobial Resistance. She is the Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee Chair of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America.



Dr Natalia Medvedeva

Dr Medvedeva is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Stanford Medicine, where she specialises in the treatment of infectious diseases with a focus on antimicrobial stewardship. Her prior work has included development of institutional guidelines for the treatment of common infections, implementation of multidisciplinary educational initiatives in antimicrobial stewardship, and research in tracking antibiotic use.



Dr Alex Zimmet

Dr Zimmet is a Clinical Assistant Professor in Infectious Disease at Stanford University School of Medicine and Associate Medical Director of the Stanford Antimicrobial Safety and Sustainability Program. His clinical care and stewardship work focus on infections in immunocompromised transplant and cancer patients, and he has led multiple quality improvement initiatives focused on both diagnostic and antimicrobial stewardship.

Beyond the Usual Suspects: Smarter Antimicrobial Stewardship for STIs, TB & HIV in Primary Care

These conditions require precise diagnosis and treatment to prevent antimicrobial resistance and ensure safe patient care across STI, HIV, and TB pathways, linking clinical care with surveillance and prevention.

The session covers: clinical decision pathways, red flags vs. self-limiting or nonbacterial illness, when *not* to prescribe, targeted treatment principles, symptomatic and supportive management, patient-centered management and prevention, linking care with surveillance.

Friday 29 May 2026
16:00-18:00 CEST



Dr Elena Vovc

Dr Vovc is a senior specialist for capacity building in the Antimicrobial Resistance surveillance team at the Statens Serum Institut, Denmark, within the department of Bacteria, Parasites and Fungi. She brings extensive expertise from the World Health Organization, where she served at HQ, the Regional Office for Europe and country level. She coordinated multicounty initiatives on TB preventive treatment in people living with HIV, worked on the development of WHO norms and standards, and coordinated various expert groups at regional, country and global levels.



Dr Thomas Theo Brehm

Dr Brehm is a physician in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases and Intensive Care Medicine at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE), Germany, and a researcher at the Research Center Borstel, Leibniz Lung Center. He also holds a Diploma in Tropical Medicine from the Bernhard Nocht Institute in Hamburg. His clinical and academic work focuses on tuberculosis and other mycobacterial diseases, with a particular interest in drug-resistant tuberculosis, treatment monitoring, and antimicrobial stewardship.

From Symptoms to Solutions: Confident Antibiotic Decisions for the Most Common Infections in Children; and Safe Prescribing In Pregnancy & Breastfeeding

- **When not to prescribe:** Avoiding unnecessary antibiotics for viral illnesses in children, and non-indicated use during pregnancy or breastfeeding.
- **Age-appropriate prescribing:** Outpatient management of common infections in children (RTIs, otitis media, pharyngitis and UTIs), including appropriate antibiotic choice and dosing
- **Recognising vulnerability and atypical presentations:** How infections present differently in infants, and pregnant patients — and how this affects stewardship decisions
- **Safe prescribing in pregnancy and breastfeeding:** Antibiotics that are safe vs. contraindicated; managing common infections while protecting maternal and infant health

Tuesday 2 June 2026
16:00-18:00 CEST



Dr Lourdes (Luli) Eguiguren

Dr Eguiguren is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Stanford University School of Medicine and a member of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford. She focuses on improving antimicrobial prescribing practices for children to slow the development and spread of resistance. She has led educational workshops to strengthen antimicrobial stewardship capacity in low- and middle-income settings, mentors scholars in the Stanford African Scholars in Global Health (SASH) Program, and serves on the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (PIDS) Global Health Committee.



Lauren Puckett

Lauren Puckett, PharmD, BCIDP, is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in Ambulatory Antimicrobial Stewardship at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford working on safe, evidence-based antimicrobial use across pediatric, obstetric, and outpatient care settings. A member of the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative Sepsis Toolkit Committee, she has worked on developing clinical decision support tools, antibiotic order sets, and quality improvement initiatives to optimise antibiotic prescribing and improve maternal-infant safety. She has led multiple maternal infection stewardship initiatives, including updates to caesarean pre-incision antibiotic prophylaxis guidance, obstetric infection treatment order sets and PPRM latency antibiotic regimens.

From Symptoms to Solutions: Confident Antibiotic Decisions and Vaccination During Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

- **Vaccination and infection prevention as stewardship tools:** How immunisation (influenza, pneumococcal, pertussis, etc.) reduces antibiotic demand; practical IPC measures in primary care.
- **Communication and safety netting:** Explaining risks and benefits to parents, caregivers, and pregnant patients; providing clear follow-up instructions to avoid unnecessary antibiotic use.

Wednesday 3 June 2026
16:00-18:00 CEST



Dr Rajeev Shah

Dr Shah is a primary and community care physician and a senior medical leader with over 25 years' experience. Based in London, he chairs national workstreams for the UK Department of Health and Social Care and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). He has contributed to both the development and implementation of the UK Antimicrobial Resistance National Action Plan 2024–2029 and supports national and international efforts to translate AMR policy into practice.

From Swabs to Scripts: Smarter Testing and Better Patient Conversations

These two are inseparable and critical for real-world practice.

Diagnostic stewardship:

- When to test
- When **not** to test
- Avoiding over-diagnosis and false reassurance
- CRP test
- Strep A test

Communication skills:

- Managing patient expectations
- Explaining “no antibiotic” decisions
- Safety netting and follow-up

Friday 5 June 2026

16:00-18:00 CEST



Dr Oskar Ekelund

Dr Ekelund is the director of Clinical Microbiology, Region Kronoberg at the Swedish National Reference Lab for AMR, the EUCAST Development Laboratory and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardization of Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing. He is a medical doctor, specialised in both infectious diseases and clinical microbiology.



Dr Onur Karatuna

Dr Karatuna is a clinical microbiologist and Lead Scientist at the WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardisation of Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing at Växjö Hospital (Sweden). As a member of the CAESAR Advisory Board, he contributes to strengthening laboratory capacity and AMR surveillance.



Dr Rajeev Shah

Dr Shah is a primary and community care physician and a senior medical leader with over 25 years' experience. Based in London, he chairs national workstreams for the UK Department of Health and Social Care and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

Course Coordinators



Dr Ketevan Kandelaki

Dr Kandelaki is a medical doctor with degrees in public health and infectious disease management. She currently serves as a Technical Officer on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) at the WHO Regional Office for Europe under the Health Security Division, Unit of Pandemic Threats, Communicable Diseases and AMR



Marcello Gelormini

Marcello Gelormini supports the WHO Regional Office for Europe on AMR activities. He served as a Technical Officer for AMR at the WHO Regional Office for Europe from 2018 to 2026, overseeing AMR surveillance across the 53 Member States and contributing to the harmonisation of scientific practices for data collection and analysis.

