

EDITORIAL



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India has emerged as the world's largest consumer of antibiotics. But now a days, the fundamental threat of using antibiotics is developing “nightmare bacteria” called “superbugs”. Bacteria can carry genes that allow them to survive exposure to the antibiotics we currently have. This means that infections caused by these bacteria are harder to treat, although they are not necessarily more severe or infectious. What is concerning is that the gene that carries antibiotic resistance can be passed between bacteria, allowing for the creation of bacteria that carry resistance genes to many different antibiotics, a superbug. Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) has released a report that contains a list of disease-causing microorganisms which have now become resistant to antibiotics. The shocking news is that the 12 of the ‘superbugs’ present in the list are found in India. WHO’s 3 categories of drug-resistant bacteria (superbugs) are **Priority 1** (*Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterobacteriaceae*), **Priority 2** (*Enterococcus faecium*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Helicobacter pylori*, *Campylobacter Sp.*, *Salmonellae*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*) and **Priority 3** (*Streptococcus pneumonia*, *Haemophilus influenza*, *Shigella Spp*). These multidrug resistant bacteria pose greater threats in hospitals and patients who require the use of blood catheters and ventilators. The most common attack methods of these superbugs are surgical site infection, ventilator-associated pneumonia and catheter-associated urinary tract infection. If hospitals in our country take proper measures to avoid such infections then countless lives can be saved. I invite researchers and readers to give more attention to this matter and to set out a plan for encouraging and accelerating the discovery and development of new generations of antibiotics, and will evaluate the development, use and regulatory environment of antimicrobials, especially antibiotics, and explore how to make investment in new antibiotics more attractive to pharmaceutical companies and other funding bodies.

Happy Reading.....

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