

Vintage Innovation

Environmental use of phages

May 16th 13:00-14:30 (CEST)

Agenda

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) poses a significant global health threat, leading to increased morbidity, mortality, and healthcare costs. Addressing AMR requires a multifaceted approach that considers human, animal, and environmental health - known as the One Health approach. Bacteriophages (phages), viruses that infect and kill bacteria, offer a promising alternative or adjunct to traditional antibiotics. However, the potential broader adoption of phage therapy requires robust evidence to support its efficacy, safety, and feasibility across One Health sectors.

The eastern part of the WHO European Region has a longstanding history and extensive experience with phage therapy, with Georgia's Eliava Institute serving as the world's oldest center for phage research and application.

This webinar series, led by WHO Europe in collaboration with the Global AMR R&D Hub, aims to accelerate evidence development to progress towards the application of phages within the One Health framework. This third webinar in a series of three will focus on the opportunities and challenges facing the application of phages for environmental use.

Objectives



Explore the current state of knowledge and evidence gaps regarding the use of bacteriophages for clinical application.



Discuss the challenges and opportunities associated with the broader implementation of phage therapy in human health settings.



Identify strategies for building the evidence base to support the broader use of bacteriophages as a tool in the fight against AMR.

Speakers

Dr Alison Blackwell

APS Biocontrol Ltd, United Kingdom

Prof Carles Borrego

ICRA, Spain

Guga Kashibadze

Tbilisi Burns Center, Georgia

Prof James Ebdon

University of Brighton, United Kingdom

Dr Gregorio Iraola

Kinzbio, Uruguay

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