



Government of Pakistan
Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority (IHRA)



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PRESS RELEASE

One step closer to combatting AMR in ICT

**MOU signed between Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority (IHRA) and
the Fleming Fund Country Grant Pakistan**

ISLAMABAD: Antibiotic use in Pakistan has increased by 65% over the last 16 years. The misuse and overuse of antimicrobials by health practitioners has increased resistance in humans, which has resulted in severe illness and even death. According to the World Bank, by 2050, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) may lead to 10 million deaths annually. There is a wide practice of health practitioners prescribing generic, broad spread antibiotics without checking if it is the appropriate solution for their patients. 75% of Pakistani patients are receiving at least one antimicrobial agent in a hospital setting.

To address this problem in Islamabad Capital Territory, Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority (IHRA) and DAI - Fleming Fund Country Grant Pakistan have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to combat Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) together.

The Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority (IHRA) is an autonomous health regulatory body enacted under the Islamabad Health Regulation Act, 2018. IHRA aims to improve the quality, efficiency and safety of healthcare services delivery by adopting evidence-based regulatory standards for the registration and licensing of healthcare establishments, health professionals & equipment. The Fleming Fund Country Grant is an initiative by the UK Government to tackle AMR, especially in low- and middle-income countries. The DAI- Fleming Fund Country Grant has been actively working with the human and animal health sector in Pakistan and helping the Government of Pakistan become a model for AMR One Health interventions.

This MOU will allow interventions in 5 public and private hospitals in Islamabad. The healthcare professionals and administrators of the selected hospitals will be trained in AMR concepts and the importance of AMR stewardship.