Themes of Justice in National Approaches to Antimicrobial Resistance



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Introduction

- OUCRU studies infectious diseases on a local, regional, and global scale
- Special interest in antimicrobial resistance and how it exists in the context of different demographics

Objective of Internship

I sought to develop a better understanding of how healthcare interventions must exist in the context of the systems that govern us.

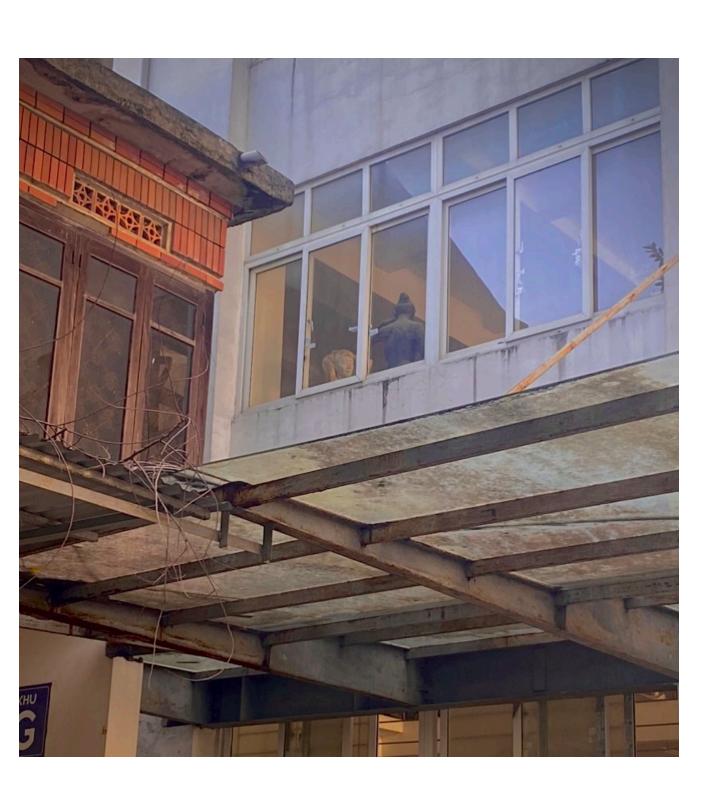
Work profile

- Analyzed National Action Plans (NAPs) of U.N. member states
- Used a lens of just transitions: how to change the way we use antimicrobials, but to also change in a fair and equitable manner
- Read and synthesized NAPs to present an analysis on how countries incorporated the idea of just transitions in their plans

Reflection

- My analysis and synthesis of the NAPs of the English-speaking countries of the African member-states within the U.N. will be compiled with analyses from other regions into a global synthesis of justice, equity, and fairness in NAPs.
- How countries approach issues relating to AMR in many cases depends on the resources they are able to allocate to them: for example, whether they have the capital to compensate for an economic loss that would occur if unable to use as many antibiotics in their livestock.
- When tracing cause-and-effect chains, many countries place the blame on individual users, emphasized by an increase in phrases like misuse or irrational use.





- This internship helped me develop a framework of intersectional approaches that is crucial to the field of public health.
- I had the chance to interact with many experts in their relative fields that used their experience to approach the problem of antimicrobial resistance from vastly different but equally important angles.
- Having this opportunity has been incredible, and I'm so grateful to have had the chance to work with so many phenomenal people on an issue I'm so passionate about.

Looking ahead

I hope to continue to further my understanding of the nuance within problems of public health, as well as how to better utilize an intersectional approach for them.

Questions

How can we balance preserving our current antimicrobials for future use while also maintaining our ability to treat current patients?

Conclusion

As a multifaceted issue, antimicrobial resistance requires an intersectional approach to ensure a just transition towards a future of more limited antimicrobial use.

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