FY’ 2010-2011 Progress Report Summary

I. APUA Publications


II. APUA Global Chapter Network Development

APUA’s global network of 66 country chapters serves as a technical resource to foster local clinical and policy improvements.

- Established APUA’s 66th chapter (APUA-Ghana).
- Conducted training modules on antibiotic resistance and appropriate antibiotic use in Uruguay, Zambia, Indonesia, Uganda, and Bangladesh.
- Created profiles on our website for each chapter: included information on the status of antibiotic resistance in that country, chapter activities, chapter leadership, publications by the chapter, maps, and images. See [www.apua.org](http://www.apua.org) under the tab “International Chapters” (categorized by region).
- Conducted the 2011 APUA Chapter Survey Report on the capabilities and needs of APUA chapters in 66 countries. See [www.apua.org](http://www.apua.org) under the tab “International Chapters,” “APUA Chapter Network,” for a poster summarizing the chapter survey.

For more information see [www.apua.org](http://www.apua.org)
III. APUA Research Presentations at Conferences

- 9/17/11-9/20/11: Levy SB. Novel approaches to the containment of antibiotic resistance in industrial and developing countries: celebrating 30 years of APUA. 51st Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy. Chicago, IL.
  - Klugman K. The impact of vaccines on resistance in the U.S. and developing countries.
  - Okeke IN. Drivers of resistance and the role of diagnostics in resource-limited settings.
  - Gorbach S. The role of narrow-spectrum agents and novel mechanisms of action in containing antibiotic resistance.
IV. APUA Research Projects
Antibiotic Resistance Situation Analysis and Needs Assessment (ARSANA) of Antibiotic Quality, Procurement, Dispensing, and Use in Two African Countries
- Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (from June 2009 – September 2010)
- APUA field offices established and trained
- 11 sites in Uganda and 12 sites in Zambia surveyed to collect data on outpatient visits to health centers and hospitals
  - Total of 10,172 outpatient records obtained in Uganda and 4,217 in Zambia
  - Capacity assessment performed on 29 laboratories in Uganda and 17 in Zambia
- Drug quality testing performed on 813 samples
International Surveillance of Reservoirs of Antibiotic Resistance (ISRAR)
- Funded by the United States Army Medical Research Institute on Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) and the National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center (NBAAC) Biological Threat Characterization Program (BTC) (ongoing)
- Completed pilot surveillance projects to collect and analyze environmental and veterinary commensal organisms that may serve as reservoirs for antibiotic resistance genes
- Protocols developed to optimize isolation and antibiotic susceptibility testing of 9 targeted bacterial genera from healthy animals and environmental sites
- Isolates obtained from 8 APUA country chapters (Bangladesh, Georgia, India, Turkey, Uganda, South Africa, South Korea, Vietnam)

Strengthening Scientific Evidence to Control the Misuse of Antibiotics in Agriculture
- Funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts (ongoing)
- Convened a roundtable of 15 scientific experts from 9 European countries in Paris on May 28-29, 2011
- Identified and engaged co-chairs and noted scientific experts from the EU
- Reviewed and assessed the impact of the ban on the use of antibiotics for growth promotion (instituted in the EU in 2006)
- Engaged delegates to develop background papers with evidence on the ban
- APUA’s summary of the meeting published by the American Society for Microbiology in Microbe magazine

V. APUA in the News
- 7/25/11: Dr. Stuart Levy (APUA President) cited in article “The End of the Era of Antibiotics” (Boston Globe)
- 4/11/11: Dr. Thomas O'Brien (APUA Vice President) and Dr. John Stelling publish paper “Integrated Multilevel Surveillance of the World's Infecting Microbes and Their Resistance to Antimicrobial Agents” (Clinical Microbiology Reviews)
- 3/31/11: APUA and Cook County Hospital study cited in article “What can be done about the rising risk of antibiotic resistance?” (The Economist)
- 2/21/11: APUA commended in article “Harvard Vanguard pushing for judicious antibiotic use” (Medford Transcript)
- 1/10/11: Dr. Stuart Levy (APUA President) profiled in interview as “A Leader of the Resistance” (Boston Globe)
11/16/10: Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter authors a letter to Congress recommending that the FDA ban the antibacterial chemical Triclosan from consumer products, citing APUA and Cook County Hospital study on the economic burden of antibiotic resistance

10/11/10: Dr. Stuart Levy (APUA President) and Dr. Thomas O'Brien (APUA Vice President) quoted in article “New 'superbugs' raising concerns worldwide” (Washington Post)

10/10/10: APUA's letter to the editor discusses the threat of antibiotic resistance (Boston Globe)

10/1/10: APUA issues public comment on Transatlantic Task Force priority activities

9/17/10: Dr. Stuart Levy (APUA President) shares expertise about NDM-1 on WBUR-Boston NPR segment, “New Drug-Resistant Superbug Appears In Massachusetts” (Radio Boston)

9/14/10: APUA recognizes Sweden's Otto Cars and Mexican Health Organization as leaders in global effort to contain antibiotic resistance

9/10/10: Dr. Stuart Levy (APUA President) and Kathleen Young (APUA Executive Director) quoted in article “Animal farms are pumping up superbugs” (International Business Times)

8/31/10: APUA advises the FDA on need to establish a system to monitor use of antibiotics in food animal production

8/10/10: Dr. Susan Foster (APUA Director of Public Policy and Education) quoted in article “More seniors on Medicare use antibiotics; study” (Reuters Health)

6/29/10: APUA lauds FDA for action on antimicrobial drugs in food-producing animals

4/16/10: Dr. Stuart Levy (APUA President) speaks on the topic “Bacterial Infections Defy Treatment” (NPR)

10/15/09: APUA and Cook County Hospital study cited in article “How Much Do Antibiotic Resistant Infections Cost?” (Wall Street Journal)

VI. APUA Fact Sheets and Policy Briefs

- Antibiotic-Resistant Infections Cost the U.S. Healthcare System $20 Billion Each Year
- Am I at Risk for C. difficile Diarrhea?
- When Do I Need an Antibiotic?
- Fighting the Common Cold
- MRSA and Antibiotic Resistance
- Antibacterial Cleaning Products in the Household
- Triclosan and its Impact on Antibiotic Resistance (white paper by Mirella Zulueta, M.D)
- Preserve Antibiotics for the Future (APUA Policy Brief)
- How Epidemics of Untreatable Infections Develop (APUA Policy Brief)
- Reduce Antibiotic Use to Delay Antibiotic Resistance (APUA Policy Brief)
- Antibiotic Misuse in Food Animals - Time for Change (APUA Policy Brief)
- Public Health Consequences of Antibiotic Use for Growth Promotion (APUA Policy Brief)
VII. APUA Advocacy and External Affairs

- 10/20/11-10/23/11: Canvassed support at the 49th Meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America for a letter to Congress from the Pew Coalition, pointing out the link between antibiotic use in food animals and drug resistant infections in humans
- 7/14/11: Co-sponsored the “Building Stewardship: A Team Approach” educational conference with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- 5/18/11: Participated in the workshop “Approaches and Technologies to Avoid Drug Resistance” sponsored by the University of Massachusetts Institute for Drug Resistance
- 4/28/11 and 4/4/11-4/7/11: Served on the FDA Anti-Infective Drugs Advisory Committee
  - Released press releases
  - Published material on APUA website and in clinical newsletters
- 10/15/10: Submitted letters to U.S. Congress in support of the FY 2011 omnibus appropriations bill increasing funding of the NIH by $750 million
- 10/1/10 and 6/7/10: Gave testimony at the stakeholder listening session for the Transatlantic Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance and other regulatory hearings
  - Suggested priorities
  - Advocated for the development of new diagnostics and antibiotics
- 8/30/10: Commented on FDA guidance #209, “The Judicious Use of Medically Important Antimicrobial Drugs in Food Producing Animals”
  - Statements developed & submitted statements by APUA, Dr. Stuart Levy (APUA President), and Dr. Thomas O’Brien (APUA Vice President)
- 7/26/10-7/27/10: Participated in the FDA/NIAID/IDSA workshop on antibacterial resistance
- 7/14/10: Gave testimony before Subcommittee on Health of the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce in support of the “Preserve Antibiotics for Medical Treatment” Act (PAMTA)
- Participated in a conference call with the Government Accountability Office on the use of antibiotics in agriculture
- Endorsed letter prepared by the Union of Concerned Scientists regarding funding for antibiotic resistance research

VIII. New Communications Developments

APUA press releases:
- 4/7/11: To Save Antibiotics, Make Them a Separate Class of Drugs
- 11/17/10: Symptomatic Relief for Colds is Better than Antibiotics
- 9/13/10: Antibacterial Resistance Found in Non-Disease-Causing Bacteria, Could Serve as an Early Warning of Drug Resistance
- 7/14/10: APUA Testimony in Support of the “Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment” Act (PAMTA)
• 7/13/10: Antibiotics Should Be Assigned to a Special Drug Class to Preserve Their Power
• 6/29/10: APUA Lauds FDA for Action on Antimicrobial Drugs in Food-Producing Animals

APUA Clinical Newsletters:
• Published three times per year
  o Vol.29 No.2 (2011): Diagnostic Innovation to Control Resistance
  o Vol.29 No.1 (2011): Antibiotic Stewardship Gaining Traction – Recommended Models and Resources
  o Vol.28 No.2 (2010): Antibiotics in Food Animal Production – a 40-Year Debate

APUA website development:
• Redesigned website (www.apua.org)
  o New pages: APUA Highlights, APUA Leadership Award, 30th Anniversary, individual pages for newest chapters
  o Links to Facebook and Twitter accounts
• Up-to-date news postings on antibiotic resistance
  o On average, 14 news stories per month on antibiotic resistance
  o About 170 news stories in last 12 months

APUA “Superbugs and Drugs” blog:
• Activated blog and developed strategy to make it more effective for APUA
  o More frequent posts, including summaries of and commentaries on current news
  o Email experts individually requesting posts or comments
• Sample blog posts:
  o Infection Prevention + Optimal Antibiotic Use = Zero Infections
  o Why Urgent Action is Needed to Safeguard Drug Treatments for Future Generations
  o The Overuse of Antibiotics in Food Animal Production Needs to Be Addressed
  o Resistant Salmonella Concord from Ethiopia

APUA contacts:
• Currently 970 subscribers receiving direct and up-to-date information on scientific issues, grant opportunities, clinical exchange, events, trainings, etc.
• 970 subscribers reach network of over 10,000 infectious disease practitioners and experts throughout APUA chapters worldwide

APUA social media: started in March 2011
• Facebook account (Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics): 187 “Likes”
• Twitter account (APUANews): 71 Followers, 263 Tweets
APPENDIX I: APUA Monthly Highlights

10/27/11: APUA October Highlights
- GAIN Act introduced in U.S. Senate
- APUA to partner on CDC HAI research
- APUA poster and petition at IDSA
- APUA article “Food Animals and Antimicrobials” in Clinical Microbiology Reviews
- APUA named a national strategic partner for CDC Get Smart About Antibiotics Week: November 14-20, 2011
- Transatlantic Report on strategies for fighting antimicrobial resistance
- 30th Anniversary and Leadership Awards posted on APUA website

7/7/11: APUA July Highlights
- APUA authors Microbe article about antimicrobials in food animals
- APUA presents at 38th Global Health Council
- APUA joins FDA petition for ban on cephalosporins in food animals
- New expert postings on APUA blog “Superbugs and Drugs” ®
- APUA announces 2011 Leadership Awardee: ESCMID
- APUA condolences to friends and family of Dr. James Rahal

5/6/11: APUA April & May Highlights
- APUA comments on U.S. NARMS strategic plan for 2011-2015
- APUA President receives International Society of Chemotherapy Award
- Upcoming APUA Newsletter to focus on antibiotic stewardship
- APUA at IDSA congressional briefing in Washington D.C.
- Report from the Field: APUA Bangladesh
- Last call for Leadership Award nominations: May 15, 2011

4/1/11: APUA March Highlights
- APUA partners with WHO for World Health Day 2011
- APUA's white paper on Triclosan available online
- APUA investigates comparative effectiveness in hand hygiene practice
- APUA welcomes Ghana as a new chapter
- APUA co-sponsors XV Congreso Panamericano de Infectologia: April 9th
- APUA to hold panel presentation at Global Health Council

3/1/11: APUA February Highlights
- APUA now accepting nominations for the 2011 Leadership Award
- APUA takes action in the debate on Triclosan
- Comment on APUA's blog, “Superbugs and Drugs”®
- APUA India co-sponsors an international training course in Jaipur
- APUA Nepal publishes its 7th Newsletter
- APUA corporate sponsorship benefits

1/27/11: APUA January Highlights
- IOM’s forum on microbial threats: workshop report
- Boston Globe interviews Dr. Stuart B. Levy
- APUA African chapter network & field report
- Dan Rather Reports: “Addicted to Antibiotics”
- APUA presents at key stakeholder conference on food safety in Washington D.C.
• Upcoming International Conference for Improving Use of Medicines
11/15/10: APUA November Highlights
• APUA features expert postings on its new blog, "Superbugs and Drugs®"
• Boston Globe publishes APUA letter: “Alarms Sounded Over NDM-1 in Massachusetts and Persistent MRSA in Maine”
• APUA suggests the establishment of compatible surveillance systems as focus for Transatlantic Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TATFAR)
• APUA partners with CDC for Get Smart About Antibiotics Week: November 15-21, 2010