



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Intergovernmental Relations

Date: October 3, 2014

To: Council Vice President Elizabeth Glidden and Committee Vice Chair Alondra Cano
Referral to: Intergovernmental Relations

Department Information

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Approved by: _____

Presenters in Committee: Gene Ranieri

Subject: Minneapolis Federal Agenda

Recommendation: Amend the Minneapolis FY2015 Federal Policies Agenda to include on page 13 after the last policy recommendation the following:

Combatting Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria.

Antibiotic resistance is the ability of bacteria or other microbes to resist the effects of an antibiotic. Antibiotic resistance occurs when bacteria change in some way that reduces or eliminates the effectiveness of drugs, chemicals, or other agents designed to cure or prevent infections. The bacteria survive and continue to multiply causing more harm. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports antibiotic-resistant infections are linked to 23,000 deaths and 2 million illnesses annually in the United States. It is estimated by the CDC that antibiotic-resistant infections cost the economy as much as \$20.0 billion annually.

While there have been federal efforts both legislatively and administratively to combat antibiotic resistant bacteria, there has not been a coordinated federal effort. Recognizing the growing concern regarding antibiotic-resistant bacteria, the President addressed the issue by releasing a national strategy regarding the issue, and issuing an executive order related to the strategy. The Executive Order establishes a task force of federal agencies that is directed to develop a five-year plan based on the strategy and recommendations from the President's Council of Advisor's on Science Technology (PCAST). The task force is chaired by the Secretaries of Defense and Health and Health and Human Services. The plan is due to be presented to the President by February 15, 2015.

Among the PCAST's recommendations are several regarding the use of antibiotics for animal agriculture. Antibiotics have been used extensively in animal agriculture and there is concern that their use could be contributing to bacteria resistance.. The Food and Drug Administration has issued a voluntary guidance that is intended to reduce the use antibiotics in animal agricultural but it is not certain if the guidance will achieve its goal.

The PCAST recommends that "If the FDA guidances are not effective in mitigating the risk of antibiotic resistance associated with antibiotic use in animal agriculture, FDA should take

additional measures to protect human health.” In addition to administrative rules, legislation limiting the use of antibiotics in agriculture has been introduced in the 2013/2014 Congress and in previous years. The Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act (PAMTA) authored by Rep. Louise Slaughter would limit the use of certain types of antibiotics for humans or animals that are sick rather than to prevent illness or foster animal growth. The bill has not been heard in either the House or Senate.

The City of Minneapolis recommends that the President and Congress adopt a plan to combat antibiotic resistant bacteria, fund its implementation and enact legislation that limits the use of antibiotics in agricultural animals.

Supporting Information.

For over a century people have taken antibiotics to cure numerous medical conditions. However bacteria are constantly evolving and existing medications—especially if they are overused—will not be effective indefinitely. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reports antibiotic-resistant infections are linked to 23,000 deaths and 2 million illnesses annually in the United States. It is estimated by the CDC that antibiotic-resistant infections cost the economy as much as \$20.0 billion yearly.

To assess the current and growing threat of antibiotic resistance and develop a multi-agency plan to combat resistant bacteria, the President in December 2013 directed the National Security Council (NSC) and the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to establish an interagency policy committee to review past and current federal efforts to address antibiotic resistance. The committee— which included representatives from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Departments of Homeland Security (DHS), State, Defense (DOD), Veterans Affairs (VA), the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)—suggested practical, evidence-based ways to enhance antibiotic stewardship, strengthen surveillance for antibiotic resistance and use, advance the development of new diagnostics, antibiotics, and novel therapies, and accelerate research and innovation. The results of the review provided the basis for the national strategy announced by the President in September 2014.

At a press conference announcing the National Strategy to Combat Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria, the President also issued an Executive Order directing a multi-agency task force to develop a five-year plan to implement the strategy. In developing the plan the task force is to consider recommendations companion report released the same day by the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST).

The National Strategy for Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria identifies for action by the federal government and its partners five interrelated goals in healthcare, public health, veterinary medicine, agriculture, food safety, and academic federal and industrial research. The goals follow:

- Slow the emergence of resistant bacteria and prevent the spread of resistant infections.
- Strengthen national “one health” surveillance efforts to combat resistance.
- Advance development and use of rapid and innovative diagnostic tests for identification and characterization of resistant bacteria.
- Accelerate basic and applied research and development for new antibiotics
- Improve international collaboration and capacities for antibiotic resistance, prevention, surveillance, control and antibiotic research and development.

The goals address the need for improved stewardship of the use of antibiotics, increased research, international cooperation and collaboration. The reference to “One Health” is a strategy that strengthens detection and control of resistance through the promotion of integrated public health and veterinary disease, food and environmental surveillance. To achieve the “One Health” approach, the National Strategy emphasizes appropriate data sharing, enhancement, expansion, and coordination of existing surveillance systems and the establishment of a regional laboratory network.

The Executive Order includes the following:

- The establishment of a multi-agency task force co-chaired by the Secretaries of Defense, Agriculture, and Health and Human Services charged to “identify actions that will provide for the facilitation and monitoring of the implementation of this order and the National Strategy for Combatting Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria.
- By February 15, 2015, the task force must submit to the President a 5-year National Action Plan that outlines actions to be undertaken to implement the Strategy. The Action Plan should also address the recommendations of the PCAST regarding antibiotic resistance.
- Provide annual reports to the President on federal government actions to combat antibiotic resistance.
- Establish a Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria that will offer advice, information, and recommendations to the task force.

PACST Report

At the request of the President, the PCAST, working with U.S. government and non-government experts, developed a set of recommendations that the Federal government could take to address the rise of antibiotic resistance through focused efforts in three areas:

1. Improved surveillance of antibiotic-resistant bacteria to enable effective response, stop outbreaks, and limit the spread of antibiotic-resistant organisms.
2. Increased longevity of current and new antibiotics, by promoting appropriate use, preventing the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, and scaling up proven interventions to decrease the rate at which microbes develop resistance.
3. Increased rates of discovery and development of new antibiotics.

The Report includes a chapter discussing the current stewardship of antibiotics and animal agriculture. The chapter begins with an acknowledgement that antibiotics are used extensively in animal agriculture and that antibiotics are typically used to not only treat animals with an active infection but also to prevent infection, or to increase animal growth. The report cautions that the benefits of antibiotic use in animal agriculture must be weighed carefully “against the serious potential risks to human health posed by antibiotic resistance.” The chapter further discusses the possible links between antibiotic resistance in animals and humans, recent FDA actions, an assessment of the impact of the FDA guidance and recommendations.

The FDA guidance is a voluntary effort to limit the use of antibiotics in animal agriculture. The FDA guidance requests animal drug companies to voluntarily change the labels on their drugs by withdrawing them for animal use or by dropping claims that the drugs promote animal growth. All 26 animal drug companies have agreed to the changes. However antibiotics can still be used to prevent infection but the FDA is proposing that licensed veterinarians oversee the use of the drugs. The guidance section regarding the veterinarians has not yet been implemented. A major metric to assess if there is a decrease in antibiotic use will be the amount of sales of antibiotics in agriculture corresponding to the elimination of their use in growth promotion. Since the FDA guidance is being rolled out over three

years, its effects will not be known until 2017 at the earliest. The report recommends that if the guidance is not effective in mitigating the risk of antibiotic resistance, the FDA should take additional measures to protect human health.

The FDA guidance and the PACST report regarding animal agriculture and antibiotic use has been criticized by health advocates and researchers as being an inadequate response to the issue. Many have called for more strict guidelines and/or legislation limiting the use of antibiotics to infected animals. Rep. Louise Slaughter (D- New York) has introduced [the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act \(PAMTA\)](#) (HR1150) and [the Delivering Antimicrobial Transparency in Animals \(DATA\) Act](#). PAMTA would preserve eight critical classes of antibiotics for treatment of humans and sick animals only. The DATA bill would require drug manufacturers to obtain and provide better information to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on how their antimicrobial drugs are used in the food-producing animals for which they are approved. It would also improve the timing and quality of the data that FDA publicly releases. Rep. Ellison and Rep. McCollum are co-sponsors of the PAMTA. Neither bill is expected to be scheduled for a hearing prior to Congress adjourning at the end of the year.

The following links are to:

The Presidents' Executive Order: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/09/18/executive-order-combating-antibiotic-resistant-bacteria>

The National Strategy:
http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/carb_national_strategy.pdf

The President's Advisory Council on Science and Technology Report:
http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/PCAST/pcast_carb_report_sep2014.pdf