

Antibiotic Research UK – Medical Writer

Who we are and what we do

Antibiotic Research UK is a national organisation founded in 2014 which raises funds to support antibiotic research, provide information and support to patients and families affected by antimicrobial resistance, raise awareness about its work among the public and professionals, and influence and campaign for better national and international approaches to tackle antimicrobial resistance.

Antibiotic resistance, that is when infectious bacteria become resistant to antibiotic treatment, is on the rise globally. It has been estimated that in 2019, 1.27 million people died globally directly from an antibiotic resistant infection (Murray CJ, Ikuta KS, Sharara F, Swetschinski L, Aguilar GR, Gray A, et al, *Global burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance in 2019: a systematic analysis*, The Lancet, 2022; 399 (10325):629-5), a figure higher than people dying from HIV or malaria. This figure is alarming and whilst the highest number of deaths were in lower- and middle-income countries, COVID has shown us how quickly an infectious agent can spread around the globe.

Medical Writer

As part of the development of the organisation's patient information and support service, we are looking for a Medical Writer on a freelance/consultancy basis to help review and improve the patient/health/medical information on our website, so that it is:

- clear,
- accurate,
- easy-to-understand,
- well-structured, and
- search-engine optimised.

We would like our website information to cover the following areas as a minimum:

- The nature, science, presentation, and impact of antimicrobial resistance within healthcare and the environment.
- Infection prevention, control, and management.
- The role and use of antimicrobials, including antibiotics and antifungals, in healthcare.
- Antimicrobial stewardship.
- Alternatives to antibiotics.
- Key antibiotics/antifungals – and their role and use.
- Key antibiotic resistant infections
- Specific clinical areas related to resistant infections (including urinary tract infections, respiratory tract infections, bloodstream infections, sexually transmitted infections, and skin/soft tissue infections) and their diagnosis, treatment and aftercare.
- Research into new antibiotics of alternatives to antibiotics
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We view this as a major and complex piece of medical writing work and are looking for one or more writers with skills/strengths in the following areas:

- Scientific and medical experience/expertise in the field of antimicrobials, and resistant infection diagnosis, treatment, and management.
- Ability to research and write clear, accurate content for a lay audience.
- A strong understanding of search engine optimisation.

If you are interested in being considered for this project, please send the following information to Joy Richardson, Charity Administrator at joy.richardson@antibioticresearch.org.uk by **Thursday 3rd August 2023**:

- A CV or brief profile outlining key Medical Writing skills/expertise, and any relevant writing projects that you have been involved in, and any relevant healthcare, medical or scientific qualifications.
- Indicative day or hour rates.
- Information about your availability to work with Antibiotic Research UK.

Further background information about Antibiotic Research UK is provided below.

Vision

A world free from deaths caused by drug-resistant infections.

Mission

To tackle the global threat of drug-resistant infections by:

- Driving and enabling innovative and collaborative research to ensure future generations have access to effective treatments.
- Supporting patients and families that are affected by drug-resistant infections.
- Working in partnership with key stakeholders to raise awareness and reduce the spread of drug-resistant infections.

Purpose

- To raise funds to support antibiotic research in the UK's universities, institutes, and organisations.
- To campaign, lobby and influence the public agenda for combating antimicrobial resistance.
- To provide educational materials about antibiotic resistance to the public and professionals.
- To develop a patient support and information network.

Values

- We support world-class, peer-reviewed research focused on bringing new antibiotic therapies to patients in a transparent and open way.
- We work to the highest ethical standards and are fully accountable to our stakeholders through open access to all we do.

- We have put in place all the necessary governance procedures to comply with UK regulations and recommendations.

Our work

There are three main aspects to our work:

- **Research** – we fund a research programme comprising a range of grants for early/new projects in the field of antimicrobial resistance, support for our MUTATE programme which has found potential for repurposed combinations of existing drugs to be effective new antibiotics and funding for antibiotic stewardship programmes.
- **Patient Information Support** – our Patient Support Service provides written information, telephone/email advice, online support and advocacy for people affected by antimicrobial resistance.
- **Raising awareness** – a range of activities to promote a better understanding of antibiotic resistance, the stewardship of antibiotics and the work of Antibiotic Research UK.
- **Fundraising** – we depend on voluntary donations to support all aspects of our work.