



*"Preserving the Power of Antibiotics"®*

## *APUA Highlights*

*Updates on APUA Action*

January 11, 2012

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### **New U.S. FDA Cephalosporin Restriction and APUA Response**

On January 4th, 2012, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an order that limits certain extra label uses of the cephalosporin class of antimicrobial drugs (frequently used in treating human disease) in cattle, swine, chickens and turkeys. The order is effective April 5th, 2012 with a 60-day comment period. In the face of industry opposition, APUA has joined a coalition including the AMA, APHA, AAP, and others in support (see APUA press release). US-based scientists and physicians can join APUA in supporting the FDA cephalosporin ban by leaving comments here. Since APUA is tracking our impact on the national campaign, please send a copy of your comments to Carol Cogliani, APUA Project Manager. In October 2011, Dr. Stuart Levy and Dr. Bonnie Marshall's review study entitled "Food Animals and Antimicrobials: Impacts on Human Health" provided a large body of evidence linking non-therapeutic use of antibiotics to antibiotic resistance in food animals and argued for stricter regulation of the practice, published in *Clinical Microbiology Reviews*. Feel free to use language from the article or the APUA press release in your comments to the FDA.

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### **European Commission and European Pharma Industry Reveal Plans to Accelerate New Antibiotic R&D**

The European Commission (EC) is working jointly with the European pharma industry body (EFPIA) to revitalize new antibiotic research and development. Part of this effort includes the €two billion Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), aimed at speeding up development of better and safer medicines. Other avenues for improvement include cooperation between pharmaceutical companies and the antimicrobial research community and improvement of regulatory pathways in clinical trials. More information can be found here.

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### **Global Health Council Article Features APUA African Field Work**

On December 6, 2011, APUA's "Antibiotic Situation Analysis and Needs Assessment in Uganda and Zambia," was featured in the Global Health Council's General Health News. The article can be found here, and more information on the study can be found on APUA's website.

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### **APUA Kenya Update**

APUA chapter leader Sam Kariuki and his research team report on the GARP- funded "Situation Analysis on Antibiotic Use and Resistance in Kenya" highlighting antibiotic prescription patterns and other trends. This preliminary report will provide the foundation for continued research and policy action on antibiotic issues in the country. Dr. Kariuki's introduction outlines the full report and Executive Summary, available here.

## **"Enhancing Infection Control with Antibiotic Stewardship" APUA Newsletter Available Online**

APUA Newsletter Volume 29 No. 3 ("Enhancing Infection Control with Antibiotic Stewardship") was distributed via email on December 21, 2011. The newsletter features experts' articles focused on infection control and prevention as well as several APUA Country Chapter updates. The newsletter is available online and will be available as a PDF by the end of January.

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### **About Us**

APUA is the leading, independent non-governmental organization with an extensive global field network dedicated to preserving the power of existing antibiotics and increasing access to needed agents.

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**About APUA Highlights**

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