

TACKLING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE VIA SCHOOL

(APRIL 2021 - MAR 2023)



The social challenge of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) requires immediate attention. In 2017 a collaboration between the University of Leeds (UK) and HERD International was awarded funding to pilot test the ability of participatory video methods to explore AMR in Nepal. Following this, it was requested that films be shared with school students. The reasoning being that AMR-aware children could influence antibiotic purchasing and usage decisions within their homes thus impacting certain behaviors which are known to drive AMR. Specifically, this funding will allow the community engagement methods developed in our original project to tackle AMR to be utilized and evaluated on children. The project will also support more comprehensive efforts in Nepal to include young children in social decision-making, as children's outputs will be shared with their local communities, including policymakers.

METHODOLOGY EMPLOYED

Participatory arts: the education program will use creative arts (posters, comics, drama) as a tool to identify barriers to rational antimicrobial use and solutions to AMR within these school communities.

Training workshops will also utilize participatory arts methodologies with many activities following the project manual, and participatory films developed in the previous CARAN project. Researchers from HERDi will facilitate the training workshops and education program development sessions in the form of interactive discussions where participants will build their knowledge of AMR whilst designing an education program for their local/host school. These sessions will be audio recorded (with participant consent) allowing researchers to transcribe, code, and analyze data on the training of adult facilitators and the co-design of the education program.

OBJECTIVES

The UoL, HERDi, and Nepali community stakeholders will collaboratively develop a pedagogically sound and robustly evaluated school-based education program to engage young people in Nepal, with the topic of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

PROJECT OUTCOME

This project will empower and equip local stakeholders with the AMR knowledge, confidence, and communication skills they will need to deliver an AMR education program in their schools.

