



Applicant Information

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Abstract Details

Title:

Gender Equity within Antimicrobial Resistance: Insights from a Scoping Review

Category:

Socio-ecological determinants of Health (climate change and One Health)

Authors:

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Objectives:

Nearly 90% of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) related deaths in 2019 occurred in lower-and-middle-income countries. Despite the known inequities in AMR, the role of social determinants of health, particularly gender and the influence of gender norms on AMR exposure remains underexplored. This review examined the intersections of gender, equity, and AMR.

Method:

This scoping review synthesizes findings from existing literature and Fleming Fund Phase I data. Data were analyzed with sex and age disaggregation, and additional social stratifiers were integrated to provide an intersectional lens. Gender-specific drivers of AMR were explored. We established links to embed gender considerations into AMR surveillance.

Results:

A review of 129 papers revealed that AMR vulnerability is shaped by both biological factors and intersectional inequities (ethnicity, education, occupation and economic status). Gender norms exacerbate susceptibility, such as in malnutrition, where boys are often prioritized for food in resource-limited settings. Occupational exposure, poor sanitation, and informal healthcare access further intersect with poverty and gender. Men, with greater financial autonomy, are more likely to obtain antibiotics without prescription. Women face unique challenges, including stigma which hinder diagnosis and treatment-seeking behaviors. These findings highlight the complex social and structural processes that drive AMR disparities along gender and equity lines.

Conclusion:

Addressing AMR requires an intersectional approach that incorporates gender equity and social determinants of health to ensure more effective interventions in LMICs.

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