BioSpect
the business of Bi
24 years of leveraging the business of Bio
www.biospectrumindia.co

Vaccines alone not enough to combat AMR: Report

25 July 2022 | News

Global Hygiene Council calls for the use of hygiene practices alongside vaccinations to prevent the spread of infectious diseases



A recent report published by the World Health Organization (WHO) has identified vaccines as highly effective tools in combating anti-microbial resistance (AMR).' Despite their efficacy, the financial risks and approval processes for vaccine development continue to restrict their use as an immediate solution to the AMR crisis. It was concluded that short-term solutions to prevent resistance must focus on interventions other than vaccines, highlighting the importance of research and investment in other methods of control, including effective infection prevention.

The Global Hygiene Council (GHC) welcomes this report and advocates the use of hygiene alongside vaccinations in controlling the spread of infections and reducing the impact of AMR. As witnessed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, hygiene plays an invaluable role in helping to prevent the spread of infections. Effective hygiene behaviours, such as hand washing, can reduce the risk of transmissible diseases by up to 59 per cent, preventing up to one million deaths per year and minimising opportunities for antibiotic-resistant bacteria to form.

The GHC is calling for immediate action to address the growing burden of AMR by promoting the role of hygiene alongside other important interventions, including vaccinations, and elevating the universal use of hygiene practices where the risk of infection is heightened.