**European Competencies in Antimicrobial Prescribing and stewardship (ECAMPS)**

Dear Participant,

Thank you for registering your society’s interest in participating in this project to implement competencies in antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship (CAMPS).

As we mentioned in the invitation, the timeline for the project may vary between countries, but our hope is that you will be able to establish a national societies’ working group by the end of this Autumn, translate and adapt the competencies set during Winter, and then start implementation efforts by next Spring.

We include here suggested approaches for the project, in case you would like to start working on this before this Autumn, and we (the ESCMID antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship competencies Implementation Group) can provide support at any time by email if needed – just write to us at escmidcompetencies@gmail.com . You may wish to work on some or all of these approaches, depending on what other initiatives are underway in your country and what other Societies and National Bodies are best to be involved.

**Possible Approaches:**

1. Form a national societies’ working group that will translate (if needs be) and adapt the competencies to your own country’s context. Each national society working group is expected to have strong local ownership and oversight of the competencies, including naming the final competencies set.

We suggest that this group should initially consist, as a **minimum**, of experts from **medical microbiology, infectious diseases and clinical pharmacy**. It might be useful to also invite experts from organisations that will be relevant to the later implementation stages (see points 4 and 5 below).
2. Before you start to consider these generic competencies, it would be a good idea to review whether there are any other similar frameworks in existence at a **national level** in your country for **all independent prescribers**. These might be mentioned in your country’s National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, clinical certifications, healthcare audits or other documents.
3. Review the set of ESCMID generic competencies in antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship **and start thinking whether local adaptation may be needed (beyond translation)**. We have attached a copy of the published paper that describes their development. **Please note** that this competencies set focused on antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship and did not include competencies on closely related topics (e.g. the use of vaccines, and infection prevention and control).
**If you wish to develop a broader competencies set in your country (for example, incorporating competencies on related topics), then the Appendix of the published paper (enclosed here), includes the final competencies (also sent previously) and suggestions for additional individual competencies, as well as references to other relevant materials.**
4. Explore how the competencies might be used by undergraduate and postgraduate educational bodies to inform their curricula design and learning objectives.
5. Explore how the competencies might best be adopted by others. Some might wish to do this from the start, whilst others might wish to gradually explore this with key organisations such as your Department of Health, who might, for example, wish to chair such a group.

These could include:

	1. Clinical Certification bodies
	2. Healthcare Inspection/Audit bodies
	3. Departments of Health/Governmental Bodies for National Action Plans on Antimicrobial Resistance
	4. Other professional prescribers or others with particular interests, for example: General Physicians; Paediatricians; Intensivists; General Practitioners; Surgeons; Dentists; Nurses; Midwives; Public Health clinicians; Podiatrists.

As you know, we will of course help throughout the project by:

* Facilitating (if needs be) your forming national society working groups
* Providing scientific input for adaptation as required
* Sharing ideas and implementation successes between countries through regular
 updates.

We think the following statements will be useful when discussing your own country’s CAMPS.
**EU Guidelines for the prudent use of antimicrobials in human health (C/2017/4326;  OJ C 212, 1.7.2017, p. 1–12)**  **“*Actions in Education:***

* *Make sure that the competency of all healthcare professionals is guaranteed by continuous professional development activities on appropriate antimicrobial use.*
* *Ensure that antimicrobial stewardship is included in all specialty training curricula for clinical specialties.*
* *Include training on prudent antimicrobial use in medical, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry and midwifery schools. This training should include a strong practical component as part of an inter-professional approach*.”

We will write again in the early Autumn, and look forward to working with you on this exciting and very important project,

Kind regards,

Barry Cookson and Oliver Dyer *On behalf of the ESCMID antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship competencies Implementation Group*