Economic burden of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR): an analysis of the additional bed day costs associated with treating resistant infection in Ireland.

Broderick N[1], Walsh KA[1], O'Brien KK[1], Smith SM[2], Harrington P[1], Ryan M[1]♯, Fawsitt CG[1]♯

[1] Health Information and Quality Authority, Ireland. [2] Department of General Practice, Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland. ♯, Co-senior authors.

AMR is a **global public health** concern. It is defined as the ability of a micro-organism (such as bacterium) to stop an antimicrobial from working against it.

Over 4,700 resistant infections occurred with 8 antimicrobial-resistant bacteria of public health concern in 2019, costing the health service an additional **€12 million** due to **longer hospital stays.**

These infections resulted in about 215 deaths and almost 5,000 years of full health lost.

Due to a lack of complete data, this is an **underestimate of the total cost.**

AMR also places a significant burden, both health and financial, on patients, carers and families.

We found the burden of AMR in Ireland is similar to that reported for certain cancers and and important conditions like rheumatoid arthritis.

There is a need for enhanced surveillance of AMR in Ireland.

This would lead to:

- **earlier identification and management of AMR threats**
- **allow an estimate of the true cost of AMR in Ireland.**

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