Background Information

Antimicrobial resistance remains one of the key problems within community and hospital settings in Europe. Over 50% of adults still believe that antibiotics work on coughs and colds. To reduce expectations for antibiotics in the long term we need to change the behaviour of our future generation of adults – our children.

e-Bug, an educational resource pack and accompanying website, sponsored by DG-SANCO of the European Commission and involving 18 EU countries, was designed to enhance student knowledge at primary and secondary school levels on four key areas:

- Introduction to Microbes
- Transfer of Infection
- Treatment of Infection
- Prevention of Infection

Project Aim

That all children will leave school with a knowledge of prudent antibiotic use and how to reduce the spread of infections for themselves and future young children, which is where much of the antibiotic misuse occurs.

Specific Objectives

- Exchange information and experiences of good practice within the educational curriculum, public campaigns and websites with associate partner countries.
- Develop a school antibiotic pack template for use across European states.
- Develop a school education website for 9 – 11 and 12 – 15 year olds.
- Evaluation of use and impact of pack in the United Kingdom, France and the Czech Republic.
- Translation and implementation of pack and website in associate countries, in close collaboration with the Ministries of Health and Education in each country.
- Dissemination of packs and marketing to collaborating partner countries.