SOCIETY OF ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP PRACTICES (SASPI) IN INDIA

Themes for the WAAW 2026 (Nov 18-24) celebration

1. Community Talks, orientation, and sensitization:

Organize talks by healthcare professionals in community centers, PHCs/ CHCs, or municipality hospitals. Encourage discussions on the rational use of antibiotics (or antimicrobials), misconceptions about them, and how to prevent infections.

The community awareness programs can be coordinated with the medical o cer in charge of the CHC/PHC.

a. Diagrams and posters in the native language can be displayed at the community center
b. A talk on antimicrobial resistance and rational microbial use can be delivered by faculty members/ SASPI executives to the community involving community leaders and common people
c. A role play can be done at the community center by nurses and or UG students to increase awareness about AMR
d. Enroll and e-certify for free online (Integrated Antimicrobial Stewardship) IAS Foundation Course developed by SASPI in collaboration with AIIMS Rishikesh to enhance your knowledge in antimicrobial stewardship. Course Link: https://lms.saspi.in/.

2. Art, Creative Expression and IEC:

Host an art competition for children and adults to express their understanding of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) through paintings, drawings, poems, or short stories. Display the artwork in public spaces to reach a wider audience. (Here a role play, quiz, poster, or e-poster competition can be kept)

3. Social Media Campaigns:

Here, we can launch social media campaigns to reach a broader audience. Share informative posts, infographics, testimonials, and videos emphasizing the importance of antimicrobial stewardship and responsible antimicrobial use. Each workpiece performed during this week's event can be shared here.

4. Hospitality Sector Involvement:

Collaborate with restaurants, cafes, and eateries to promote responsible use of antimicrobials. Encourage them to display information about the dangers of their misuse on menus or at the counter. The focus can be on one health concept.

5. Scientific Presentations and Symposia:

Organize scientific presentations and symposia involving researchers, nurses, pharmacists, clinicians, and policymakers to discuss the latest research on AMR, potential solutions, and policy implications (Online webinars, symposiums, poster-quiz competitions, panel discussions,

etc can be performed).

NB: Whereas these are some of the options, an Institute can curate their own WAAW program and celebrate.

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6. Patient Stories and Testimonials:

Display real-life stories of patients who have been affected by AMR and how antimicrobial stewardship has helped to combat the situation (Can be planned as case discussions / interdepartmental discussions). Testimonials can be published on social media handles.

7. Media Outreach:

Engage with local newspapers, blogs, radio stations, and TV channels to cover stories, interviews, or programs about AMR and the activities happening during this week's event.

8. Adoption of village/ ward / school / college and locality for Antimicrobial misuse-free:

We can adopt a village, ward, or community to make antimicrobial misuse-free for one year.

8. Optimisation of Pharmacy shop practices:

Each medicine shop dispenser ensures antimicrobial prescriptions before handing over medicines. If the patient comes directly without a doctor's visit, the dispenser can advise symptomatic treatment without antimicrobials unless one has microbiologic confirmation of infection.

9. Sensitizing each Health-care worker and public:

Each HCW should be an antimicrobial steward by practicing integrated stewardship in daily practice; they have to be a role model for the public at large. During this WAAW, if each HCW reflects on their own practice, updates one missing one, and shares the story with another HCW or the public, it will be remembered the whole year and added to the stewardship armamentarium.

10. Adopting One-health practices:

Each veterinary or agricultural practice should ensure the right use of antimicrobials in their fields and integrate human, animal, and environmental sciences towards optimal future health.

Thank you.

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