

# Questions raised on Antibiotics - October 2014

## Antibiotic Resistance debate— [Mr Christopher Chope in the Chair]

2:30 pm

15<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Please find link to the debate [here](#)

### Tuberculosis

Department of Health

17<sup>th</sup> October 2014



**Luciana Berger** (Shadow Minister (Public Health); Liverpool, Wavertree, Labour)

To ask the [Secretary of State](#) for Health, what assessment he has made of the statement from the [Chief Executive of Public Health England](#) that the number of cases of tuberculosis in Britain will soon exceed the number in the [US](#) for the first time; and what steps he is taking to tackle the increasingly antibiotic-resistant form of tuberculosis.



**Jane Ellison** (The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health; Battersea, Conservative)

[Public Health England](#) and [NHS England](#) will jointly launch the Collaborative [TB](#) Strategy for England 2015-2020 having consulted on the draft earlier this year. The strategy sets out the best practice in clinical care, social support and public health to strengthen TB control. The strategy also focuses on building on existing successful initiatives in the NHS and public health system to reduce drug-resistant TB incidence by improving access to rapid diagnostic tests, dealing with the clinical and social risk factors associated with development of drug resistance, ensuring patient compliance with treatment by providing case management support, including the flexible delivery of care.

### Antibiotics

Department of Health

20<sup>th</sup> October 2014



**Jim Shannon** (Shadow DUP Spokesperson (Health); Strangford, DUP)

To ask the [Secretary of State](#) for Health, what steps he is taking to ensure the continuing effectiveness of antibiotics.



**Jane Ellison** (The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health; Battersea, Conservative)

The Government is taking a wide range of measures as part of implementing the [UK](#) Five Year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy. In addition to work to galvanise international action and stimulate drug development, conserving the efficacy of antibiotics through improved infection prevention and appropriate prescribing is a key objective at the heart of our programme.

Following the findings of the English Surveillance Programme for Antimicrobial Utilization and Resistance (October 2014), we have developed new antibiotic prescribing measures for primary and secondary care to help reduce variability in antibiotic prescribing that together with guidance should help to improve antimicrobial stewardship.

We are updating a key resource for secondary care, called *Start Smart Then Focus*, on the appropriate use of antibiotics, and have updated a resource called **TARGET** (Treat Antibiotics Responsibly, Guidance and Educational Tool) for general practitioners to help them educate patients about appropriate use of antibiotics.

The first annual report detailing full progress on implementing the UK Five Year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy, together with details of future plans, will be published later this year.