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Dear Fellows and Members

We have chosen antibiotic use and misuse as our topic of the month. Antibiotic resistance has personal and global consequences.

Over the past 60 years, antibiotic use and resistance have been at war, with one lagging 2 years behind the other. Without big change antibiotics needed to treat major life threatening infections today may become useless within 50 years. Increasing number of normal children are showing up with MRSA (methicillin-resistant staph.aureus) infection. Prior to this MRSA infection was purely hospital acquired. This is just the tip of the iceberg, with the emergence of drug-resistant streptococcus pneumoniae, multidrug-resistant mycobacterium tuberculosis, vancomycin-resistant enterococci, and, most recently, vancomycin-resistant staphylococcus aureus.

Two common causes of resistance includes taking an antibiotic for a viral infection or inappropriately; taking it for less than the prescribed time for treating bacterial and viral infections.

Education of the public about the dangers of resistance, the difference between the warning signs of a significant bacterial infection and a non-worrying viral infections may be a first step followed by CME's for health professionals and more stringent dispensing laws.

Our annual conference is at Royal Society of Medicine, UK on the 10th and 11th September 2010. Looking forward to see you in the UK.



K. Jagadeesan

Dr. K. Jagadeesan
President, IMSA

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All fellows and members of IMSA can have access to the site and get information about its objectives, benefits to the fellows/members, chapters and their activities including seminars, refresher courses, rural CMEs etc. and also IMSACON - a regular annual event of international standard; *application form for enrollment as fellow/member can also be downloaded. Fellows - members and even not fellows - members can have access to full text in the quarterly journal - jimsa from July - Sept. 2003 onwards by putting their E-mail address under 'user name' and using the password 'UserJimsa'.*