

FY2023 initial budget proposal 1.1 billion yen

Slide as shared during the 6th Meeting of the Global Leaders Group on AMR in Barbados, 6-7 Feb 2023 and posted for sharing with permission from MHLW

1 Background

- The number of deaths due to antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is expected to increase in the future. (※1)
(※1) The lowest estimate of deaths attributable to AMR is 0.7 million deaths worldwide. If no measures are taken (if resistance rates increase at the current pace), 10 million deaths are expected in 2050. (Antimicrobial Resistance in G7 Countries and Beyond, G7 OECD report, Sept. 2015)
- The number of newly approved antimicrobials against resistant bacteria has been on the decline in recent years. (※2)
(※2) The number of approved antimicrobials in Japan was 27 in 1990-1999, 16 in 2000-2009, and 11 in 2010-2019.
- Developing new antimicrobials has become commercially unattractive for pharmaceutical companies. Despite high development costs drug prices remain low. Profitability due to sales is also constrained as antimicrobial use should be controlled to appropriate levels (*3).
(※3) Unnecessary use, such as administration for conditions which do not require antimicrobials, and inappropriate use, in which the dosage and duration of administration deviates from standard treatment, lead to an increase in resistant bacteria and consequent decrease in antimicrobial efficacy.
- At the G7 UK 2021 Health and Finance Minister's Meeting, market incentives were discussed and countries were strongly urged to implement them.
- A trial project of market incentives is currently underway in Sweden and the UK. (The United States is considering implementation.)

2 Overview of the Project

- In order to play a leading role in international discussions on international health while maintaining a healthy antimicrobial treatment environment in our country, we are trialing a market incentive project (The government will subsidize companies that cooperate with national AMR policies through controlling sales to appropriate levels in order to encourage antimicrobial development).
- The project will target therapeutic agents for drug-resistant bacteria that pose a public health threat, the and aims to validate the feasibility of market incentives in Japan.
- It will help to promote the development of novel antimicrobials while ensuring appropriate use of antimicrobials and securing options for the treatment of resistant bacteria.

