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Podcast Title: One health-the way forward

Department: Microbiology

Category: Continuing medical education

TRANSCRIPT

- The health of people, animals and ecosystems are interdependent. Alterations in these interactions can lead to the emergence and spread of new diseases in both humans and animals
- Hello Everyone..... This is Dr. Udhaya sankar, Associate professor in the department of Microbiology talking about “One health-the way forward”
- What is One Health? One Health is a holistic, interdisciplinary approach to optimising and balancing human, animal and ecosystem health. It harnesses the interdependent relationships between these domains to develop novel surveillance and disease prevention strategies.
- One Health applies to a range of issues, including : ‘
 1. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR),
 2. Zoonotic diseases
 3. Vector-borne diseases
 4. Food safety and foodborne diseases
 5. Environmental health, such as air & water pollution and climate change.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has underlined the need to strengthen the One Health approach, with a greater emphasis on connections to animal health and the environment
- So, what is required to implement One Health?

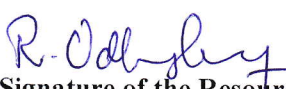
- Major structural changes are required to integrate the human, animal and environmental health fields and require multi-sectoral communication, collaboration, coordination, and capacity strengthening.
- **But there are lots of critical gaps in One Health implementation**
 - Identify and map existing initiatives and capacities
 - Create databases and resources to support information sharing and action
 - Create a model for an integrated One Health surveillance system
 - Showcase of best practice examples for One Health implementation;
 - Develop mechanisms for routine and emergency coordination with relevant stakeholders
 - With respect to spillover of zoonotic diseases a more complete understanding of the drivers including animal trade, agriculture, livestock farming, urbanization and habitat fragmentation is required.


What is WHO's response?

- WHO is a member of the One Health Quadripartite with the
 - Food and Agriculture Organization,
 - The World Organisation for Animal Health and
 - The United Nations Environment Programme.
- Together, they have developed a One Health Joint Plan of Action that includes a set of activities that the 4 organizations can do together, including working with political leaders to establish the needed infrastructure and funding.
- WHO is the secretariat for the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP), which provides scientific advice to the Quadripartite partners on One Health priority setting, policies and strategies.

I would like to end by quoting, **'The earth is for all to live and the human race cannot fight every enemy, we should learn to live in harmony with them'**

Thank you and good day!


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