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WORLD ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE AWARENESS WEEK

18-24 NOVEMBER 2026

‘ONE HEALTH, ONE ACTION: PREVENT AMR NOW.’

Antibiotics are life-saving medicines and an essential part of modern dentistry. However, antibiotic use drives antimicrobial resistance (AMR), threatening their effectiveness and patient safety. Preventing oral disease reduces the need for antibiotics, helping to preserve these vital medicines for serious and potentially life-threatening dental infections.

The KDA is committed to protect the effectiveness of antibiotics for everyone both now and in the future, as a body of professionals in oral healthcare, we ask our patients to support World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW).

The World Health Organisation’s latest Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance reinforces the importance of prevention and specifically recognises access to high-quality oral healthcare as an important part of preventing infections and reducing the need for antimicrobials. Crucially, it confers on dental professionals nationally and worldwide the shared responsibility of preventing oral disease and infection, managing infections effectively, and using antibiotics responsibly when they are needed.

During the World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW),18–24 November 2026, the KDA is calling on every dentist, dental practice and oral healthcare teams, and policy makers, to discuss what action they can take to prevent infections, strengthen antimicrobial stewardship and help protect antibiotics for the future.

To support the profession, as healthcare service providers together with our patients we are guided by evidence-based guidance on the use and overuse of antibiotics in managing dental conditions and infections. Educational material to tackle the problem of antibiotics abuse and overuse is available on this link **Register-massive-open-online-course-tackling-antibiotic-resistance-dentistry**

About World AMR Awareness Week: This is an annual UN-backed campaign to raise awareness and increase understanding of AMR, and to promote global action to tackle the emergence and spread of drug-resistant pathogens. This year’s theme is ‘One Health, one action: Prevent AMR now.’