Ideas required

Antimicrobial resistance in aged-care facilities requires a novel approach

Prof Ramon Shaban, Prof Brett Mitchell, Dr Philip Russo, Dr Deborah Macbeth

A nurse-led antimicrobial stewardship intervention in two residential aged care facilities. Healthcare infection, 2015, 4(6)


Recent research has brought into sharp focus the extraordinary and starting use of antimicrobials in RACF settings and the complex factors contributing to this, for which there are few original, ready solutions. ANPA 2016 and ANPA 2017, the first and second reports on antimicrobial use in human health respectively, document the extent of the AMR problem Australia faces and the significant challenges we all face. The extent of these issues was

Responding to the challenges of AMR and antimicrobial use in RACFs requires novel and original solutions. This need is highlighted by the lack of RACF-specific AMR surveillance and AMS programs to address the high levels of inappropriate antimicrobial use.

The volume of antimicrobials used in aged-care facilities is startling and needs to be addressed. The call for research grants in this space provides hope for the future.