



**Australian Government**

**Department of Health**

Adjunct Professor Kathy Meleady  
Stream Director, AURA, HAI-IPC  
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care  
GPO Box 5480  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Adjunct Professor Meleady

Thank you for your letter of 3 July 2020 to Ms Sarah Norris, acting First Assistant Secretary of the Office of Health Protection, and for providing data from the Antimicrobial Use and Resistance in Australia Surveillance System for submission to the World Health Organization's Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (GLASS).

The data were provided to Professor Monica Lahra in her capacity as Australia's GLASS National Focal Point and successfully uploaded to GLASS on 24 July 2020. This is a significant achievement as Australia has now submitted data on six of the eight priority pathogens and two of the four priority specimens identified by GLASS. I acknowledge the significant work undertaken by you, Jan Bell, and Professors John Turnidge and Geoff Coombs to make this possible. Please accept and pass on my appreciation.

The GLASS team will send the department a questionnaire regarding the 2020 data. The Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Section will liaise with you and Professor Lahra regarding Australia's response to the questionnaire, and if there are other questions regarding the Australian data. The section will also send you any updates about the 2020 GLASS dataset.

Please note that Ms Celia Street has replaced Ms Sarah Norris as First Assistant Secretary of the new Office of Health Protection and Response. Within the Office, the branch with responsibility for antimicrobial resistance and usage policy is now called the Environmental Health and Health Protection Policy Branch and I recently replaced Dr Rebecca Newton as Assistant Secretary of the branch.

It is clear that the Commission plays an integral role in antimicrobial resistance and usage surveillance in Australia and I look forward to meeting you soon. I have asked the AMR Section to arrange for me to meet with you in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please continue to liaise with Tanja Farmer ([tanja.farmer@health.gov.au](mailto:tanja.farmer@health.gov.au) or (02) 6289 3458).

Yours sincerely

Lara Purdy  
Assistant Secretary  
Environmental Health and Health Protection Policy Branch  
30 July 2020

cc Professor Geoff Coombs  
cc Professor Monica Lahra