



Terms of Reference

Western Australia Multi-Resistant Organism Expert Advisory Group

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Western Australia Multi-resistant Organism (WAMRO) Expert Advisory Group (EAG) is to provide advice on monitoring, prevention and control of multi-resistant organisms (MROs) from a state-wide perspective. This includes the community and all public and private healthcare facilities across the continuum of care including, but not limited to acute care, residential care and primary care.

2. Accountability

Recommendations made by WAMRO will be discussed and reported to the Infection Prevention and Control Advisory Group and to the Healthcare Infection Council of Western Australia (HICWA) Executive Committee. Decisions impacting on Policy will be updated in relevant Mandatory Policies and Communicable Disease Control Directorate Guidelines as required. The Chair will report WAMRO concerns to the Assistant Director General Public and Aboriginal Health Division (ADG PAHD), who will decide which issues should be taken to the Departmental Executive Committee (DEC), Health Executive Committee (HEC) or other relevant internal or external body.

3. Roles and responsibilities

To provide expert advice to the WA health system regarding MROs, including:

- monitoring activity of MROs (nationally and internationally)
- methods for surveillance and reporting
- addition of MROs as Notifiable Infectious Diseases under the Public Health Act
- laboratory responsibilities
- methods to ensure prevention of transmission
- revision of the micro-alert system
- control measures (sporadic cases and outbreaks)
- development of policy relating to MRO surveillance and control
- review of recommendations and requests from the Micro-alert Governance Group
- any other issues concerning MROs that may have an impact on the WA population.

4. Meeting frequency and Modality

WAMRO EAG will meet quarterly with meetings scheduled prior to the quarterly HICWA meetings to enable timely updates to HICWA. The group may also be called together as required e.g. in an outbreak situation.

Meetings will occur via Microsoft Teams or face to face.

5. Notice of meetings

WAMRO EAG members will be forwarded an agenda and associated papers at least five working days prior to the meeting.

6. Quorum

A quorum will consist of the Chairperson, or Deputy Chair and at least 50% of the membership.

7. Code of Conduct

7.1 Code of ethics

The WAMRO will observe and comply with the WA Public Sector Code of Ethics. A copy of this document can be accessed at the public sector [website](#).

7.2 Conflict of interest

Each WAMRO member must declare any duality of interest in matters of concern to the WAMRO including

- verbally declare any potential conflicts of interest (COI) at the commencement of each meeting on matters described on the agenda
- alert the Chair of any potential COI that may arise during a meeting.

7.3 Decision making

In making recommendations, WAMRO will aim for a consensus view. Overall decision approval resides with the Chair.

8. Secretariat

Secretarial support will be provided by the IPPSU, including responsibility for collation and circulation of the agenda, related papers and record of meeting. The Chair and the Secretariat will be responsible to promulgate information to the WA health system through established communication networks

9. Chairperson

The Chairperson (Chair) shall be the Director, Communicable Disease Control Directorate.

10. Membership

10.1 The WAMRO is to comprise the following representation:

- Director, Communicable Disease Control Directorate (Chair)
- Public Health Physician, Communicable Disease Control Directorate (Deputy Chair)
- Medical Advisor, Infection Prevention and Control, Royal Perth Hospital
- Medical Advisor, Infection Prevention and Control, Fiona Stanley Hospital
- Laboratory Representative, PathWest Microbiology, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
- Laboratory Representative, PathWest Microbiology, King Edward Memorial Hospital/ Perth Children's Hospital
- Jurisdictional Representative, Critical Antimicrobial Resistances Alert (CARAlert)
- Representative, PathWest Microbiology Laboratory Regional WA
- Principal Research Scientist, PathWest *Clostridium difficile* Typing Laboratory
- Principal Research Scientist, PathWest Gram-positive Typing Laboratory
- Senior Medical Scientist, PathWest CRE/CPO/colistin Molecular Reference Laboratory
- Genomic Epidemiologist, PathWest Laboratory Network
- Representative, Private Microbiology Laboratory
- Senior Physician, WA Country Health Service
- Infection Prevention and Control Specialist, Public Hospital
- Infection Prevention and Control Specialist, Private Hospital
- Manager, Surveillance Disease Control, Communicable Disease Control Directorate
- Program Manager, IPPSU
- Senior Policy Officer, IPPSU
- Senior Program Officer (ICNET) IPPSU
- Program Officer (IP&C Nurse) IPPSU
- Program Officer (Data) IPPSU
- Other members may be co-opted as required.

10.2 Current Membership

The current membership is listed in Appendix 1

10.3 Proxy attendees

Members are to nominate a proxy to the secretariat if they are unable to attend a meeting. Proxy attendees have full decision-making rights.

10.4 Co-opted members

Representation may be requested from other specialty services or organisations as co-opted members from time to time.

The Terms of Reference and Membership of the WAMRO will be reviewed biennially or as required and endorsed by the Membership.

11. Review

The Terms of Reference and Membership of the WAMRO will be reviewed biennially or as required and endorsed by the Membership.

12. Version control

Version	Date	Change
V6	February 2025	Reviewed, membership updated, minor amendments to reflect actual reporting structures.
V5	November 2023	Reviewed, membership updated, minor amendments.
V4	February 2021	Reviewed, minor amendments, membership adjusted.
V5	August 2017	Reviewed, minor amendments, and changes in terminology
V2	February 2015	Updated to include conflict of interest Statement
V1	February 2012	Initial TOR developed. Endorsed by Membership February 2012
V6	February 2025	Reviewed, membership updated, minor amendments to reflect actual reporting structures.
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Appendix 1 Current Membership

Member	
Paul Armstrong	Director, CDCD (Chair)
Rebecca Hogan	Public Health Physician, CDCD (Deputy chair)
Lynette Pereira	Medical Advisor, Infection Prevention and Control, RPH
Tammy Wijesuriya	Medical Advisor, Infection Prevention and Control, FSH
Tristan Gibbs	Laboratory Representative, PathWest Microbiology SCGH
Michelle Porter	Laboratory Representative, PathWest Microbiology KEMH / PCH
Paul Ingram	Jurisdictional Representative, Critical Antimicrobial Resistances Alert (CARAlert)
Michael Leung	Representative, PathWest Microbiology Laboratory Regional WA
Tom Riley	Principal Research Scientist, PathWest Clostridioides difficile Typing Laboratory
Geoff Coombs	Principal Research Scientist, PathWest Gram-positive Typing Laboratory
Jake Gazeley	Senior Medical Scientist, PathWest CRE/CPO/colistin Molecular Reference Laboratory
Daniel Knight	Genomic Epidemiologist, PathWest Laboratory Medicine
Smathi Chong	Representative, Private Microbiology Laboratory
Larkesh Garg	Senior Physician WACHS
Libby Oakes	Infection Prevention Control Specialist, Private Hospital
Danielle Engelbrecht	Infection Prevention Control Specialist, Public Hospital
Nevada Pingault	Manager, Surveillance Disease Control, CDCD
Rebecca McCann	Program Manager, IPPSU
Infection Prevention Policy and Surveillance Unit Members and Secretariat	
Dr Liana Varrone (PhD)	Program Officer (Data)
Lisa Nicolaou	Senior Policy Officer
Melanie Trainor	Senior Policy Officer
Claire Tinson	Senior Policy Officer
Inutu Kashina	Senior Project Officer (ICNET)
Olivia Kamau	Program Officer (IPC)

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