Nkuchia M. M'ikanatha

Proposed question

Given the potential role of animal reservoirs in the emergence and dissemination of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) mechanisms including extended-spectrum cephalosporins genes, has the <u>PACCARB</u> considered surveillance for AMR in meat from wildlife and farmed exotic animals? The presence of antimicrobial resistance would likely indicate the environmental spread of genetic mechanisms and microbes selected from non-wildlife sources. Additionally, antimicrobials may be used in exotic animals <u>raised</u> for <u>consumption</u> in the United States.

While consumption of wildlife <u>declined</u> during the COVID-19 pandemic, it could rebound at higher levels in the US and other countries. Innovative approaches can be explored for tracking antimicrobial resistance in meat from wildlife and exotic animals. Surveillance could be conducted within the current NARMS infrastructure in partnership with traditional partners as well as additional collaborations with the USGS Wildlife Service Health Center. The Council could also support One Health surveillance to monitorantimicrobial resistance in bush meat sold in other parts of the world including countries in Africa such as South Africa, Kenya, China, and Southeast Asian countries like Nepal.

Thank you,

Nkuchia