The global pipeline for new antimicrobials isn’t keeping pace with the rise of antimicrobial resistance. Countries around the world are looking for ways to enhance access to existing novel antimicrobials while encouraging the development and commercialization of new ones.

*Overcoming Resistance* describes the challenges Canada faces when accessing high-value antimicrobials and the pull incentives that could help boost the availability of novel antimicrobials going forward.

**Antimicrobials face unique market challenges**

- Prescribed for short courses
- Use is deliberately limited
- Competition from cheap generics
- Difficulty conducting clinical trials
- Non-inferiority trials limit quality of evidence

Canada lags in its access to novel antimicrobials compared to peer countries. Of the 18 antibiotics that have come to market since 2010, only 3 are commercially available in Canada.

**Enhancing Antimicrobial Innovation**

- Push incentives encourage upstream R&D
- Pull incentives encourage commercialization
A subscription pull incentive (SPI) holds the greatest promise for revitalizing the market for antimicrobials in Canada.

- Creates guaranteed access to important new antimicrobials
- Provides a fixed annual payment to manufacturers, regardless of sales
- Includes stringent eligibility criteria to address unmet public health needs
- Incorporates stewardship provisions
- Stipulates an incentive payment level based on a drug's public health value

**Canada's Fair Share**

Canada could work with a group of other high-income countries to contribute to an adequate global pull incentive. A fair contribution from Canada would be in the range of CDN $14.5–18 million per drug per year over 10 years with payment levels varying based on drug value.

Complementary measures can improve the success of an SPI by:

- Enhancing efficiency of regulatory review
- Bolstering supply of rapid diagnostics
- Fostering upstream R&D
- Improving surveillance data