



Plenary sitting

B8-0021/2017

4.1.2017

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on chlorhexidine and colistin resistance

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Motion for a European Parliament resolution on chlorhexidine and colistin resistance

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas colistin is a last-resort antibiotic regarded as ‘critically important’ by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and colistin use doubled in the European Union between 2010 and 2014;
- B. whereas according to a study conducted by Public Health England (dated 31.10.2016) the bacterium *Klebsiella pneumoniae* exhibits cross-resistance to chlorhexidine and to colistin, and whereas the efflux pump *smvA/R*, which is found in many bacterial strains, appears to play a critical role in the mechanism concerned;
- C. whereas a number of scientific studies, in particular the study by the Spanish National Centre for Biotechnology in Madrid (16.2.2016), have demonstrated the role of efflux pumps in antibiotic resistance;
- D. whereas chlorhexidine is a wide-spectrum antiseptic that is commonly used in dental hygiene products in particular and is regarded as an essential medicine by the WHO (2015);
- 1. Encourages the Commission to support research into the causes of antibiotic resistance and to publish guidelines for the use of chlorhexidine so as prevent the emergence of antibiotic resistance.