Letter to the Editor

Stop blaming physicians

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Dear Editor,

I read with interest the article by Das et al. I agree with the authors that rational antibiotic use is important in preventing emergence of antibiotic resistance. Infectious diseases are the major causes of morbidity and mortality in developing countries; and antibiotics are widely used in these countries. That is why antibiotic susceptibilities of bacteria may not be the same as stated in textbooks. But considering the fact that hospitals in Nepal do not release antibiotic resistance susceptibilities of the most frequently isolated bacteria regularly and periodically, physicians are mostly in dilemma about the proper antibiotic use. So, the authors should stop blaming physicians for improper use of antibiotics but recommend major hospitals like BP Koirala Institute

of Health Sciences start releasing antibiotic susceptibilities of bacteria. Similarly, antibiotic cycling will be another approach to reduce emergence of antibiotic resistance.

This will help physicians in making decisions regarding proper antibiotic use and prevent emergence of highly resistance strains of organisms.

Reference

 Das BP, Sethi A, Rauniar GP, Sharma SK. Antimicrobial utilization pattern in out patient services of ENT department of tertiary care hospital of Eastern Nepal.Kathmandu Univ Med J (KUMJ). 2005 Oct-Dec;3(12):370-5.