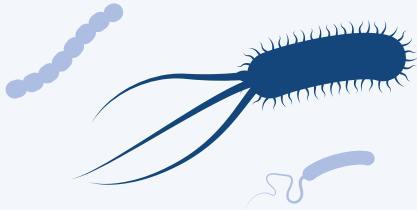


Actions For Healthcare Providers

You can protect your patients from antibiotic-resistant germs such as bacteria and fungi, which can cause difficult and sometimes impossible to treat infections.



Prevent Infections & the Spread of Germs

Follow infection prevention and control recommendations, including screening at-risk patients when indicated.

Ask patients if they recently received care in another facility or traveled to another country (germs can be spread easily across borders).

Ensure your patients receive recommended vaccines.

Alert receiving facilities when transferring patients who are colonized or infected with antibiotic-resistant germs.

Educate patients on ways to prevent spread.

Stay informed of current outbreaks.



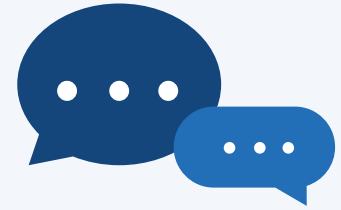
Improve Antibiotic Prescribing

Follow clinical and treatment guidelines. Support CDC's Core Elements of Antibiotic Stewardship to ensure appropriate antibiotic use.

Consider fungal infections for patients with respiratory infections that do not respond to antibiotics.

Watch for signs and symptoms of sepsis. If you suspect sepsis, start antibiotics as soon as possible and reassess antibiotic therapy.

Perform appropriate diagnostic tests to guide antibiotic therapy, including correct drug, dose, and duration.



Be Alert & Take Action

Be aware of infections and resistance patterns in your facility and community.

Ensure you are notified by the lab immediately when antibiotic-resistant germs are identified in your patients.

Inform patients and families if they have an antibiotic-resistant infection, as well as sexual partners when appropriate (e.g., gonorrhea).

Know when to report cases and submit resistant isolates to the health department to help identify unusual resistance or treatment failures.