

# Antimicrobial Resistance Spreads Easily Across the Globe

**Antimicrobial resistance** (AR) is not only a problem in the United States—it is a **global crisis**. AR has been identified across the world. New forms of AR emerge and can spread with remarkable speed between continents through people, goods, and animals. Inappropriate antibiotic and antifungal use and inadequate infection prevention can increase the chance that AR develops, spreads, and puts the world at risk. It is critical that the United States continue to take a **global, One Health** approach to combating AR.

An antimicrobial-resistant threat anywhere can quickly become a threat at home. Each year, 410 million travelers arrive in the United States through more than 300 points of entry.

Global capacity is needed to slow development and prevent spread of antimicrobial resistance.

CDC is leading the public health fight against AR across health care, the community, and the environment.



Detect Antimicrobial-Resistant Threats



Prevent & Contain Antimicrobial-Resistant Germs



Improve Antibiotic & Antifungal Use



Learn more about CDC's AR Solutions Initiative: [www.cdc.gov/DrugResistance](http://www.cdc.gov/DrugResistance)

Scan with your smartphone camera to watch a video on how CDC & partners are fighting AR globally



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

# CDC Fights Antimicrobial Resistance (AR) Around the World

The United States is positioned for a better and faster response to AR because of the strategic leadership and investment of CDC's AR Solutions Initiative. The AR Solutions Initiative invests in national infrastructure and global capacity to detect, respond, contain, and prevent antimicrobial-resistant infections across healthcare, food, and community settings.

## CDC ACTIVITIES

CDC supports activities in more than 60 high-burden countries around the world to improve antibiotic use, detect and track AR, and implement infection prevention and control (IPC) activities.

### Strengthening local, regional, national capacity

- Enhancing **laboratory capacity** to detect and report AR with global health implications
- Establishing or strengthening **national surveillance systems** to respond rapidly to outbreaks, identify emerging pathogens, and track trends
- Supporting a **national network of travel clinics** to better understand the spread of AR across the U.S. to improve the health of travelers

### Collaborating with global partners, governments

- Contributing to the development and implementation of **national action plans** to address AR
- Implementing **programs in health care** to prevent the spread of AR, including IPC programs; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs; and antibiotic stewardship programs
- Supporting 9 **CDC infection control experts** in CDC country and regional offices



### In the current five-year U.S. National Action Plan to Combat AR (CARB), CDC is:

- Expanding the Global AR Laboratory and Response Network around the world to identify and respond to AR threats and strengthen capacities for AR prevention, detection, and response.
- Improving international collaboration and capacities for AR prevention efforts—including by strengthening antibiotic stewardship, surveillance, and use of vaccines for prevention across One Health.
- Enhancing engagements with multilateral organizations and countries to support progress on United States priorities to combat AR.

## CDC IN ACTION

- **20+ partners** are implementing programs in nearly **50 countries** as part of the Global AR Lab & Response Network.
- Experts are implementing national policy, guidelines, and tools to strengthen IPC capacities to decrease the burden of healthcare-associated infections and contain AR threats when they are detected in healthcare facilities.
- Experts are strengthening capacity for prevention, detection, and response for *Candida auris* and other fungal pathogens.
- Experts are developing innovative approaches to AR detection, including building and strengthening capacities for wastewater and environmental surveillance.



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