About CDC’s Antibiotic Resistance Lab Network

The Antibiotic Resistance Lab Network (AR Lab Network) supports nationwide lab capacity to rapidly detect antibiotic resistance in healthcare, food, and the community, and inform local responses to prevent spread and protect people. The AR Lab Network includes labs in 50 states, five cities, and Puerto Rico, including seven regional labs and the National Tuberculosis Molecular Surveillance Center (National TB Center). As a whole, the network tracks changes in resistance and helps identify and respond to outbreaks faster.

AR Lab Network Regional Labs &
National Tuberculosis Molecular Surveillance Center

Every regional lab does core testing. Select labs provide additional testing to support nationwide needs. The National TB Center is equipped to perform whole genome sequencing (WGS) for isolates of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in the U.S.

Core Testing by all regional labs:
- Molecular testing to detect colonization of carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE).
- Detection of new and emerging threats, like mcr-1, and ability to detect changes to known threats, like Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).
- Isolates may be used for the CDC and FDA AR Isolate Bank and WGS projects.
- Fungal susceptibility of *Candida* species to identify emerging resistance.
- Identification and colonization screening to detect and help prevent spread of *Candida auris* (*C. auris*).

Additional Testing by some regional labs and the National TB Center:
- Clostridium difficile special projects.
- Enhanced detection of drug-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* using WGS.
- Antimicrobial susceptibility and serotyping of multidrug-resistant *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.
- Perform WGS for all isolates of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

The Core and Additional Testing complements lab capacity supported by CDC in every state, five cities, and Puerto Rico.