

# Antibiotic Resistance (AR) Spreads Easily Across the Globe

**Antibiotic resistance** is not only a U.S. problem—it is a **global crisis**. Resistance has been identified across the world. New forms of resistance emerge and can spread with remarkable speed between continents through people, goods, and animals. Inappropriate antibiotic use and inadequate infection prevention can increase the chance that resistance 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 antibiotic resistance.

One billion people cross through international borders each year. This includes 350 million travelers arriving in the United States through more than 300 points of entry.

A resistant threat anywhere can quickly become a threat at home. Global capacity is needed to slow development and prevent spread of antibiotic resistance.

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



Detect Resistant Threats



Prevent & Contain Resistant Germs



Improve Antibiotic 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 Antibiotic Resistance (AR) Internationally

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, which invests in national infrastructure and global capacity to detect, respond, contain, and prevent resistant infections across healthcare, food, and community settings.

## CDC ACTIVITIES

Through CDC's Antibiotic Resistance Solutions Initiative, the agency supports AR activities in nearly 30 high burden countries throughout the world to improve antibiotic use, track resistance, and implement infection prevention and control (IPC) activities.

### Building local, regional, national capacity

- Enhancing **laboratory capacity** to detect and report antibiotic resistance with global health implications
- Establishing or strengthening **national tracking 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 resistance across the United States to improve the health of travelers

### Collaborating with global partners, governments

- Contributing to the development and implementation of **AR national action plans** to address AR
- Implementing **programs in healthcare** to prevent the spread of resistance, including IPC programs; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs; and antibiotic stewardship programs
- Using nearly 30 **CDC infection control experts** for technical assistance globally



**TO MOVE  
FORWARD**

### In the next five-year National Action Plan to Combat AR (CARB), CDC aims to:

- Expand the AR Lab Network internationally to identify and respond to emerging threats
- Establish "learning laboratories" to develop or test innovative, cost-effective solutions for containing urgent antibiotic-resistant pathogens
- Improve international collaboration and capacities for AR prevention, surveillance, infection control

## CDC IN ACTION

- Experts are working throughout Latin America to implement 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 in several countries have developed IPC resources and a framework for estimating the cost-effectiveness of IPC interventions.
- CDC led The Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Challenge, a yearlong effort by the U.S. government to accelerate the fight against AR. The Challenge resulted in more than 350 organizations across the globe committing to slow AR.



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