Health Departments Are Combating Antibiotic Resistance (AR)

State and local health departments fight antibiotic resistance, but more support is needed as new resistance continues to emerge.

Lab Data are Enhancing Local Response
- Rapidly detect AR through CDC’s Antibiotic Resistance Laboratory Network
- Inform local responses to prevent spread

Prevention & Containment are Stopping Spread
- Support aggressive responses to all unusual resistance
- Work with local partners and healthcare facilities to track and prevent healthcare-associated, foodborne, and community infections caused by antibiotic-resistant germs

Improving Antibiotic Use Slows Development of AR
- Use data to improve antibiotic use and keep antibiotics effective for life-threatening infections, including those that can lead to sepsis
- Lead or support improvements to antibiotic use in humans, animals, and the environment

Gaps in Lab Capacity can Allow Germs to Spread Undetected
- New types of resistance are constantly emerging and spreading
- Labs need specialized workforce to implement and use new technologies

More Boots on the Ground Needed to Stop Transmission
- More infection control responses are needed as new threats emerge in healthcare and the community
- Poor access to the best data tools can hurt efforts to learn about resistant germs and affected people
- Containment responses can be labor intensive and lab-epidemiology coordination is essential to stop the spread of new threats

Changing Prescribing Habits & Expectations Require Investment
- Improving antibiotic use across settings (healthcare, farms, the environment) is complex and needs tailored interventions
- Tracking antibiotic use in settings like nursing homes and long-term care facilities often does not exist or is difficult