Resistance happens when germs (bacteria and fungi) defeat the drugs designed to kill them. Any antibiotic use—in people, animals, or crops—can lead to resistance. Resistant germs are a One Health problem—they can spread between people, animals, and the environment (e.g., water, soil).

Examples of How Antibiotic Resistance Affects Humans, Animals & the Environment

**People**
Some types of antibiotic-resistant germs can spread person to person. “Nightmare bacteria” carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) can also survive and grow in sink drains at healthcare facilities and spread to patients and to the environment through the wastewater.

**Animals**
Resistant germs can spread between animals and people through food or contact with animals. For example, *Salmonella* Heidelberg bacteria can make both cattle and people sick.

**Environment**
Antibiotic-resistant germs can spread in the environment. *Aspergillus fumigatus*, a common mold, can make people with weak immune systems sick. In 2018, resistant *A. fumigatus* was reported in three patients. It was also found in U.S. crop fields treated with fungicides that are similar to antifungals used in human medicine.