Antibiotic-Resistant Infections Threaten Modern Medicine

Millions of people in the United States receive care that can be complicated by bacterial and fungal infections. Without antibiotics, we are not able to safely offer some life-saving medical advances.

**Sepsis Treatment**

Anyone can get an infection and almost any infection can lead to sepsis — the body’s extreme response to an infection. Without timely treatment with antibiotics, sepsis can rapidly lead to tissue damage, organ failure, and death.

**AT LEAST 1.7M** adults develop sepsis each year.

**Surgery**

Patients who have surgery are at risk for surgical site infections. Without effective antibiotics to prevent and treat surgical infections, many surgeries would not be possible today.

**1.2M** women had a cesarean section (C-section) in 2017. Antibiotics are recommended to help prevent infection.

**Chronic Conditions**

Chronic conditions (e.g., diabetes) put people at higher risk for infection. These conditions and some medicines used to treat them can weaken the immune system (how the body fights infection).

**MORE THAN 30M** people have diabetes. Antibiotics are used to treat common infections in these patients.
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**Organ Transplants**
Organ transplant recipients are more vulnerable to infections because they undergo complex surgery. Recipients also receive medicine to suppress (weaken) the immune system, increasing risk of infection.

MORE THAN 33,000 organ transplants were performed in 2016. Antibiotics help organ transplants remain possible.

**Dialysis for Advanced Kidney Disease**
Patients who receive dialysis treatment have a higher risk of infection, the second leading cause of death in dialysis patients.

MORE THAN 500,000 patients received dialysis treatment in 2016. Antibiotics are critical to treat infections in patients receiving life-saving dialysis treatment.

**Cancer Care**
People receiving chemotherapy for cancer are often at risk for developing an infection during treatment. Infection can quickly become serious for these patients.

AROUND 650,000 people receive outpatient chemotherapy each year. Antibiotics are necessary to protect these patients.

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