Antibiotic / Antimicrobial Resistance

Antibiotics and similar drugs, together called antimicrobial agents, have been used for the last 70 years to treat patients who have infectious diseases. Since the 1940s, these drugs have greatly reduced illness and death from infectious diseases. Antibiotic use has been beneficial and, when prescribed and taken correctly, their value in patient care is enormous. However, these drugs have been used so widely and for so long that the infectious organisms the antibiotics are designed to kill have adapted to them, making the drugs less effective. People infected with antimicrobial-resistant organisms are more likely to have longer, more expensive hospital stays, and may be more likely to die as a result of the infection.

People infected with drug-resistant organisms are more likely to have longer and more expensive hospital stays, and may be more likely to die as a result of the infection. When the drug of choice for treating their infection doesn’t work, they require treatment with second- or third-choice drugs that may be less effective, more toxic, and more expensive. This means that patients with an antimicrobial-resistant infection may suffer more and pay more for treatment.

Travel Health Alert Notice - Cholera

Information for Travelers

Cholera germs can live in food or water. If you have been in a country where there is cholera (like Haiti), you may have picked up cholera germs. Cholera gives you watery diarrhea.

You can lose a lot of water from your body very fast.

Please watch for diarrhea and get medical help quickly. If you do not get medical treatment, cholera can kill you.

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