

CDC Vital Signs

Protect Patients from Antibiotic Resistance

[Announcer] This program is presented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Patients can get serious infections while receiving medical treatment in a healthcare facility. These healthcare-associated infections, or HAIs, are often caused by antibiotic-resistant germs, which can lead to sepsis or death. Significant progress has been made in preventing HAIs, but more work is needed. Clinicians are key to preventing antibiotic-resistant infections, which can be difficult, or even impossible, to treat.

Protect *every patient, every time* by following a combination of infection control efforts and improving antibiotic use. Healthcare providers need to follow infection prevention recommendations for surgery and placement of a catheter, and *always* take steps, including regular hand hygiene, to prevent the spread of bacteria. Improved antibiotic use will also help prevent the emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. To learn more, visit [cdc.gov/vital signs](http://cdc.gov/vital-signs).

[Announcer] For the most accurate health information, visit www.cdc.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.