

Superbugs Can Affect Anyone



AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY



CYSTIC FIBROSIS FOUNDATION



IDSA
Infectious Diseases Society of America



Partnership to Fight Infectious Disease



Peggy Lillis Foundation
For C. diff Education & Advocacy



Pew



SEPSIS ALLIANCE



WORKING TO FIGHT AMR

The Scope of the Superbug Crisis

Globally, drug-resistant bacterial infections killed over **1.2 million** people and played a role in 4.95 million deaths in 2019. By 2050, superbugs are expected to kill more than **10 million** people each year, outpacing annual deaths from cancer.

THE PERSONAL TOLL OF ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE



"I wasn't nervous about a minor knee surgery...Little did I know that within 36 hours, I would be lying unconscious on the sofa at my daughter's second birthday party, my right leg inflamed like an overinflated balloon. The incision site on my knee had been infected with...MRSA, an antibiotic-resistant 'superbug.' What my doctor had initially diagnosed as a simple infection nearly cost me my leg. It could have even taken my life."

BRANDON NOBLE, FORMER NFL DEFENSIVE TACKLE



"In late 2018, I became very ill from...a lung infection and catching RSV... I was getting treated using some of the strongest antibiotics that we have in our arsenal today, and my body wasn't responding... Dealing with that severe antibiotic-resistant infection made me want to share my story. I wanted to capture the attention of the public to develop new, novel therapies...so that less people have to deal with the terrifying experience that I did."

ELLA BALASA, CYSTIC FIBROSIS ADVOCATE



"I have been living with a chronic Pseudomonas aeruginosa infection in my lungs since I was a child... I first discussed antibiotic resistance with my doctor when I was in my early 20s. At the time I was dealing with...periods where my symptoms became noticeably more severe...First- and second-line antibiotics that I had used for years...started to fail me...I underwent nearly two dozen procedures while spending a cumulative year on intravenous antibiotics to control the infection and prevent my body from slipping into end-stage illness."

GUNNAR ESIASON, CYSTIC FIBROSIS AND RARE DISEASE PATIENT ADVOCATE



"The infection [from my broken ankle] was spreading fast, and they said if they couldn't stop it, they would have to amputate my leg...[An experimental] antibiotic really worked, the infection is gone."

GEORGE SEMAKULA, SUPERBUG SURVIVOR



"I've lost patients because of a lack of effective antibiotics and other antimicrobial medicines. Antimicrobials have saved countless lives, but they are not keeping up with resistance."

DR. PAUL POTTINGER, PHYSICIAN AND PROFESSOR AT UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

THE PERSONAL TOLL OF ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE



"[My daughter] Mallory is one of the millions who have died -- or who will die -- from drug-resistant infections. She was just 12 when *B. cepacia*, the bacteria that would eventually kill her, took up residence in her lungs. Before it became fully resistant, she played varsity sports and graduated...from Stanford. Mallory looked like the girl who had it all -- privilege, access and the best healthcare money could buy."

DIANE SHADER SMITH, WRITER, SPEAKER, AND ADVOCATE



"I was feeling the strongest most physically fit I had ever been. [When my left leg felt sore,] I didn't think much of it and just tried to train through the pain...I started to feel fever chills...I was admitted to the hospital so I was started on IV antibiotics...They took me in for emergency surgery and discovered I had an 18-centimeter MRSA infection that eats away at the muscle...I have a two-foot long scar on the back of my leg, and probably had 150 stitches."

TORI KINAMON, DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL STUDENT AND FORMER DIVISION I COLLEGE GYMNAST



"My 18-month-old son Simon...woke up one morning screaming in agony. Within 24 hours, he died from a drug-resistant infection that doctors were powerless to stop. Had effective antibiotics been available, he would still be with us today."

EVERLY MACARIO, PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCHER AND WRITER



"In late December 2013, I contracted sepsis after complications from weight loss surgery and MRSA, and I went into septic shock...I was placed in a medically induced coma...On January 8, 2014, I awoke from the coma with a grateful heart and a new lease on life... Many of the Faces of Sepsis™ weren't as fortunate. Many have lost their lives."

CHRISTINA LYNCH, MRSA AND SEPSIS SURVIVOR



"I had a simple gardening cut -- a nick...on my thumb...It became so infected that I went to seek emergency care...They treated me with...antibiotics and an antifungal, but none worked. They scheduled me...for surgery to remove my thumb and as much of my hand and arm as needed to control and get rid of the bacteria that were now spreading up my arm. It wasn't until the seventh antibiotic that they tried in the hospital before that surgery that they saw improvement."

RICK BRIGHT, FORMER DIRECTOR OF BARDA



"We've seen firsthand how cancer patients are particularly vulnerable to these deadly infections. Time and again, we've watched as patients fighting a wide variety of cancers developed bacterial infections that were highly resistant to antibiotics."

DR. CYNTHIA SEARS AND DR. FYZA SHAIKH, PHYSICIANS AND PROFESSORS AT JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY



"I'm all too familiar with superbugs...More and more, I care for patients with drug-resistant urinary tract infections who have to... receive an antibiotic intravenously, rather than taking pills at home. I also see patients who can't receive life-saving organ transplants because they have a drug-resistant infection."

DR. NEIL CLANCY, PHYSICIAN AND PROFESSOR AT UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH



"*C. diff* has changed my life forever...My body will never be the same, mentally or physically. I have colitis flare-ups regularly, am now gluten intolerant, and am on a regimented eating plan because of the damage... to my colon...The stress of being in and out of ICU...with sepsis and the effect my illness has done to my family has caused me great angst. I deal with the anxiety of wondering if I will get sick again, fear of hospitals, and post-traumatic stress."

PAM MCCOLLISTER, *C. DIFF* AND SEPSIS SURVIVOR