Antibiotic-resistant infections contributed to nearly 5 million deaths in 2019. In 2020, hospital-onset drug-resistant infections and deaths jumped 15% as COVID-19 erased years of progress in the fight against superbugs. In 2023 alone, at least four superbug outbreaks have gripped the attention of health experts, the media, and the public. The time to act is now.

**Candida auris**

*Candida auris* is a fungus that can cause serious bloodstream, skin, and other infections and is often multi-drug resistant. *Candida auris* has caused outbreaks in healthcare settings.

In 2021, there were nearly 1,500 clinical cases of *Candida auris* in the United States – more than a 300% increase since 2019.

*Candida auris* cases resistant to echinocandins – the most commonly prescribed antifungal for such infections – tripled in 2021.

**Pseudomonas aeruginosa**

*Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is a strain of bacteria that can cause infections in the lung or blood or other parts of the body post-surgery and is often drug-resistant.

In 2017, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* caused approximately 32,600 infections among hospitalized patients in the United States and roughly 2,700 deaths.

This year, contaminated eyedrops caused severe *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infections in at least 68 patients in 16 states, including 8 who suffered permanent vision loss, 4 who needed surgical removal of their eyeball, and 3 deaths.

**Shigella**

*Shigella* are bacteria that cause the infection shigellosis, which often manifests itself as a stomach bug. Extensively drug-resistant strains of shigella are on the rise.

*Shigella* cause nearly half a million infections in the United States each year.

5% of *Shigella* cases in 2022 were extensively drug-resistant -- up from 0% in 2015.

**Gonorrhea**

*Gonorrhea* is a sexually transmitted disease (STD) caused by infections from the bacterium *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.

In 2018, there were approximately 1.6 million new Gonorrhea-related infections in the United States.

This year, health officials identified, for the first time in the United States, two cases of gonorrhea that were resistant to nearly every antibiotic available to treat the infection.
Superbugs Are Here. The Time to Act is Now.

**Clinical cases of Candida auris as of December 2022**

**Cases of Shigella resistant to azithromycin, ciprofloxacin, ceftriaxone, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, and/or ampicillin in 2022**

**Massachusetts detects gonorrhea strain showing resistance to nearly all antibiotics used to treat it**

**4 cases of bacterial infection potentially linked to eye drops found in L.A. County**

**In HBO’s ‘The Last of Us,’ a fungus destroys the world. Could that really happen?**

**This antibiotic-resistant bacteria is on the rise, and the CDC is worried**