



Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

EXPLAINED



What is Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)?



AMR happens when bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites evolve and no longer respond to the medicines designed to kill them. As a result, infections become harder to treat, increasing the risk of disease spread, severe illness, and death.

Did You Know?

AMR is a global issue but people living in low-resource settings are disproportionately affected by it.

These communities face increased vulnerability due to poor access to vaccines, basic health care, and infrastructure needed to prevent infections in homes, health care facilities, and farms.

KEY FACTORS FOR AMR PREVENTION



VACCINES



BASIC
HEALTH CARE



INFRASTRUCTURE

What is Being Done to Combat AMR?

Combatting AMR requires coordinated global action across health, agriculture, and environmental sectors, which makes it a complex problem to solve. In 2015, the World Health Organization introduced the Global Action Plan (GAP) on AMR to:



RAISE AWARENESS
of antimicrobial resistance



IMPROVE DATA AND RESEARCH
through surveillance



PREVENT INFECTIONS
via water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and infection control



PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE USE
of antibiotics and other antimicrobials



DRIVE INVESTMENT
in new antibiotics, diagnostics, and vaccines

Do Vaccines Help Prevent AMR?

Yes. Vaccines prevent disease, which therefore reduces antibiotic use. This lowers the chances for resistant bacteria to develop and spread. By preventing illness in both individuals and in communities, vaccines help slow the rise of antimicrobial resistance.



Source: [WHO](#) | Updated: November 2025

from **VACCINES** to **VACCINATIONS**