



Local Health Departments Work to Stop Antibiotic Resistance

Antibiotics revolutionized healthcare worldwide, but their continued application and overuse have resulted in infections becoming resistant to treatment. As treatment options have become more challenging and expensive, antimicrobial resistance—which includes resistance among bacteria, parasites, viruses, and fungi—is a growing threat to the health of the public.

Local health departments protect their communities every day from infectious disease threats. They collect and analyze data to identify outbreaks, investigate reportable diseases, and prevent the spread of infections in community and healthcare settings.

NACCHO Recommendations

To promote healthy living and prevent disease, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) recommends the following in fiscal year (FY) 2018:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

FY17: \$163 million

President's FY18 Budget: \$137 million from Prevention and Public Health Fund

FY18 NACCHO Request: \$200 million

The Antibiotic Resistance Solutions Initiative has as its goal to build prevention programs in all 50 states and 10 large cities, utilizing evidence-based approaches to stop the spread of drug-resistant bacteria and preserve the effectiveness of existing antibiotics. The initiative also supports a new network of regional labs to improve tracking of and response to outbreaks of serious and potentially deadly bacteria.

HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS

FY17: \$12 million

President's FY18 Budget: \$0

FY18 NACCHO Request: \$12 million

The healthcare-associated infections program at CDC helps to identify and stop deadly pathogens found in healthcare settings. Continued funding is necessary to support local efforts to combat disease and protect the public.

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE SAFETY NETWORK

FY17: \$21 million

President's FY18 Budget: \$21 million

The National Healthcare Safety Network coordinated by CDC is critical for evaluating the success of interventions designed to reduce inappropriate antibiotic use and limit the development of resistance and is therefore an integral component to broader efforts to address resistance.

ADVANCED MOLECULAR DETECTION INITIATIVE

FY17: \$30 million

President's FY18 Budget: \$30 million

The Advanced Molecular Detection Initiative (AMD) strengthens CDC's molecular sequencing tools and bioinformatics capacity to more rapidly and accurately detect infectious diseases and resistance. During the most recent Ebola virus disease outbreak, AMD methods were utilized to determine whether the virus was changing as it spread through different populations, which facilitated appropriate responses.

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Role of Local Health Departments

Local health departments are on the front lines of responding to healthcare-associated infections and infection control, convening local healthcare providers and other stakeholders to address risks, conducting needs assessments, implementing campaigns to educate the public, and developing resources to support local healthcare facilities in healthcare-associated infection prevention and outbreak response. Examples of local activities include the following:

- The Philadelphia Department of Public Health, Division of Disease Control, hosted the Philadelphia Community Antimicrobial Stewardship Collaborative Meeting, bringing together professionals from healthcare facilities, non-profits, and government agencies to discuss antibiotic prescribing, practical strategies for applying antimicrobial use data, and local stewardship experiences in hospital settings.
- The DuPage County (IL) Health Department conducted needs assessments in 11 long-term care facilities and shared results with local hospitals, long-term care facilities, and other stakeholders to advance collaboration on this important health issue.
- The Florida Department of Health in Orange County in collaboration with the state's Healthcare-associated Infection Prevention Program and a local long-term care facility implemented a pilot project to reduce the unnecessary use of antibiotics by implementing evidence-based practices of antibiotic stewardship.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

About NACCHO

NACCHO is the voice of the more than 3,000 local health departments across the country. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to ensure the safety of the water we drink, the food we eat, and the air we breathe.

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NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health



The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice with local health departments.

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