

The Threat of Multidrug Resistant Organisms (MDROs) in Hospitalized Patients

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1

Disclosures

- Seres Therapeutics LLC (consultant)

2

Overview

- Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)
- Drivers of AMR
- Risk factors for infection with MDROs
- Superbugs and super-resistance
 - ESBL-E, CRE/CPE, CRAB, DTR
- Consequences and costs of AMR

3

Terminology Primer

RESISTANCE LEVELS

- **MDR: Multi-drug resistant**
 - Non-susceptible to ≥ 1 agent in ≥ 3 antimicrobial categories
- **XDR: Extensively drug resistant**
 - Susceptible to only 1–2 remaining antibiotic categories
- **PDR: Pan-drug resistant**
 - No in vitro susceptibility to any antibiotic agent
- **DTR: Difficult-to-treat resistance**
 - Non-susceptible to all first-line agents for that organism
 - Often used to describe *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

KEY ORGANISMS

- **GNR: Gram-negative rod**
 - Bacteria with outer membrane; often harder to treat
- **ESBL-E: ESBL-producing Enterobacterales**
 - Resistant to 3rd-gen cephalosporins (e.g., ceftriaxone)
- **CRE: Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales**
 - Resistant to last-resort carbapenem antibiotics
- **CPE: Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales**
 - CRE subset that produces enzyme (e.g., KPC, NDM)
- **CRAB: Carbapenem-resistant Acinetobacter baumannii**
 - Environmental non-fermenter; high environmental persistence

KEY TERMS & CONCEPTS

- **Colonization vs. Infection**
 - Colonization: organism present, no symptoms, patient is a carrier
 - Infection: organism invades tissue, produces clinical signs/symptoms
 - Critical: colonized patients need IC precautions but NOT treatment

4

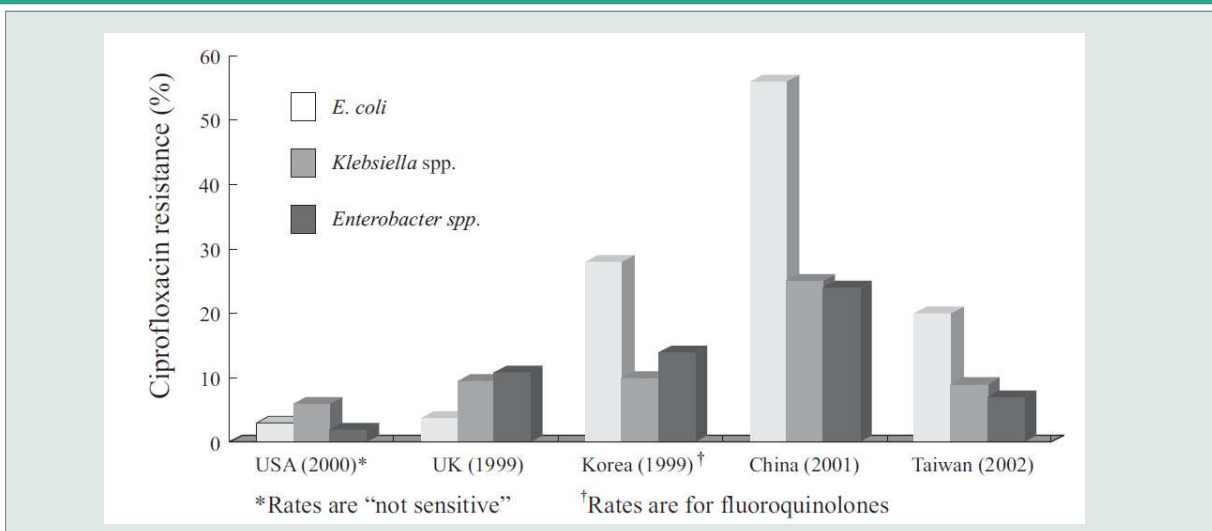
The Threat of Antibiotic Resistance

- WHO: "antibiotic resistance one of the three greatest threats to human health"
 - US: annual additional costs of infections caused by resistant organisms \$21–34 billion
 - Impacts all aspects of modern medicine
 - Surgery
 - Oncology
 - Transplantation
- } **Require effective antibiotics for their existence**

Murray CJL et al. Lancet 2022;399:629–655 • Isturiz. Int J Antimicrob Agents 2008;32:s201

5

Resistance is Global



→Antibiotic resistance is a global problem — no single country is unaffected

Isturiz. Int J of Antimicrob Agents 2008;32:s201

6

Global Burden of Antimicrobial Resistance

1.27 million

deaths directly attributable to bacterial AMR (2019)

4.95 million

deaths associated with bacterial AMR (2019)

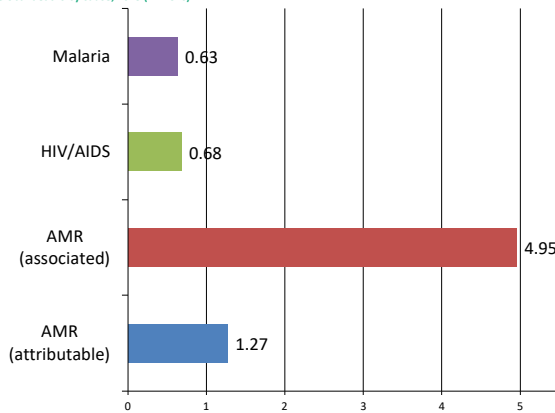
Ranked #1

infectious disease cause of death globally (surpassing HIV/AIDS & malaria)

1.91 million

projected annual attributable deaths by 2050 (2024 forecast)

Global deaths by cause, 2019 (millions)



- Leading syndrome: lower respiratory infections
 - >1.5 million deaths associated with AMR
- Top 6 pathogens account for 73% of attributable deaths
 - *E. coli*, *S. aureus*, *K. pneumoniae*, *S. pneumoniae*, *A. baumannii*, *P. aeruginosa*
- Geographic disparity: highest burden in sub-Saharan Africa
 - 27.3 deaths per 100,000 vs. 6.5 in Australasia
- 2050 projection: 39.1 million cumulative attributable deaths (2025–2050)
 - Sharpest rise in adults ≥70 years in all regions

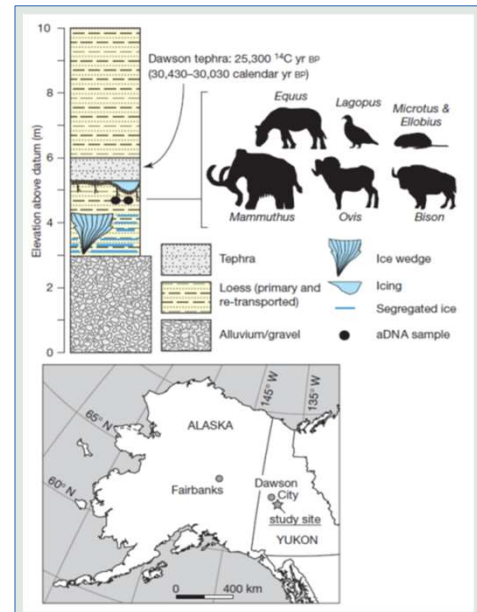
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Where did antimicrobial resistance originate from?

8

Antibacterial Resistance is Ancient

- Researchers analyzed DNA from 30,000-year-old permafrost
- Found beta-lactamase genes in ancient *Streptococcus* and *Streptomyces* bacteria
- Also found resistance genes for tetracyclines and glycopeptides (vancomycin)
- Bacteria produce antibiotics themselves in constant ecological warfare
 - Bacteria in ecosystems produce antibiotics; others develop resistance to survive
- Human medicine has selected for organisms already resistant to antibiotics

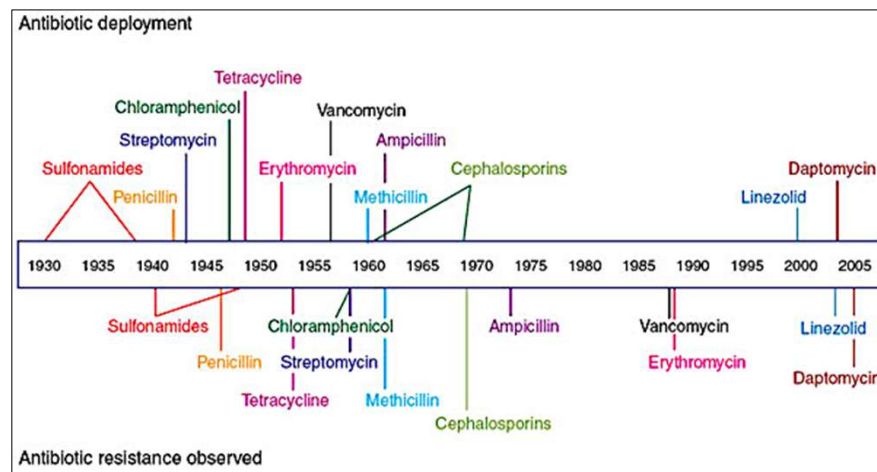


D'Costa et al. *Nature* 2011;477:457

9

Antibiotic Resistance Timeline

- For every antibiotic developed, a resistance mechanism already exists and is selected for shortly after use
- This pattern holds from penicillin (1940s) to the most recent agents
- **Key takeaway:** we cannot outpace resistance through discovery alone

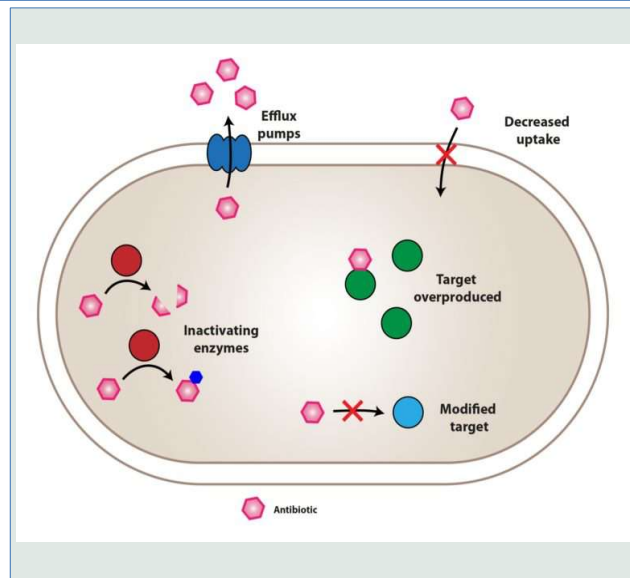


Clatworthy et al. *Nature Chem Biol* 2007;3:541

10

Mechanisms of Resistance in Bacteria

- Enzymatic degradation of antibiotic (e.g., beta-lactamases)
- Target site modification (e.g., altered penicillin-binding proteins)
- Efflux pumps: active export of antibiotic from cell
- Reduced outer membrane permeability (porin loss in GNRs)

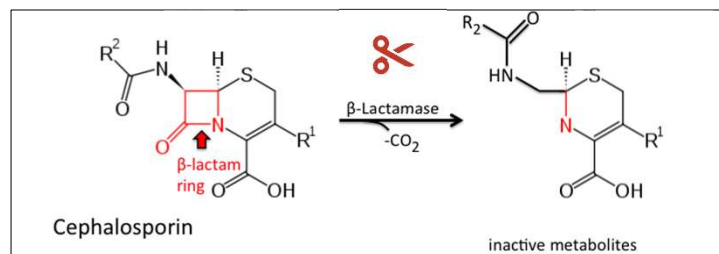


futurelearn.com/info/courses/introduction-to-bacterial-genomics

11

Beta-lactamases in AMR

Key clinically important families



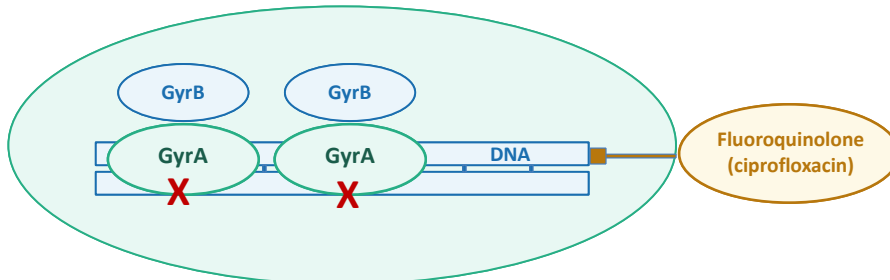
Enzyme	Class	Substrates hydrolyzed	Clinical relevance
TEM / SHV	A	Penicillins, early cephalosporins	Common nosocomial ESBLs
CTX-M	A	3rd-gen cephalosporins (CTX)	Dominant ESBL worldwide
KPC	A	Carbapenems + all β -lactams	Most common carbapenemase in US
NDM	B	Carbapenems (metallo-enzyme)	South Asia; travelers
OXA-48	D	Carbapenems (weakly)	Europe, Middle East, Africa
AmpC	C	Cephalosporins (not carbapenems)	Inducible in <i>Enterobacter</i> spp.

Bush K & Jacoby GA. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 2010;54:969–976 • Ke W et al. *Biochemistry* 2007;46:5732 • Castanheira M et al. *JAC-Antimicrob Resist* 2021;3(3)

12

DNA Gyrase Mutations in Fluoroquinolone Resistance

FQs trap gyrase on DNA → irreversible double-strand breaks → cell death



QRDR Mutations that confer fluoroquinolone resistance			
Position	Wild-type	Common mutant	Resistance impact
GyrA Ser83	Serine	Leu / Trp	Primary; disrupts FQ-Mg ²⁺ chelation at active site
GyrA Asp87	Aspartate	Asn / Gly	Additive with Ser83; step-wise MIC increase
GyrB Asp426	Aspartate	Asn	Less common; quinolone resistance
ParC Ser80 (Topo IV)	Serine	Ile / Arg	Second target; compounds GyrA resistance

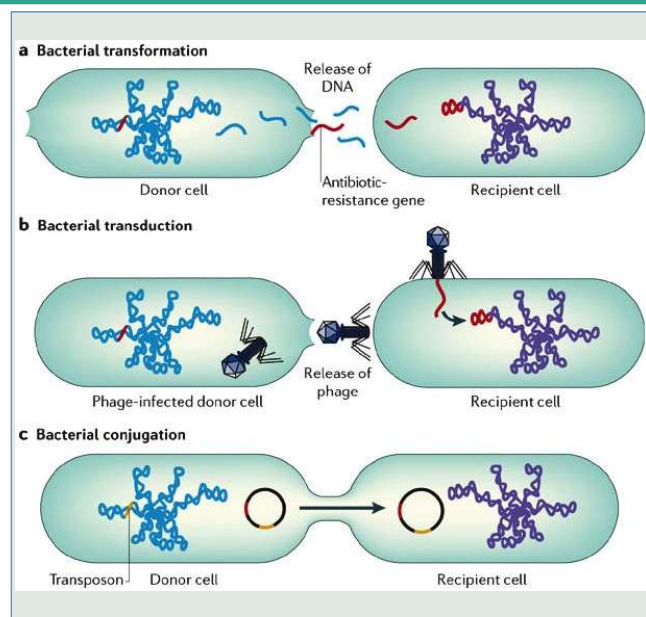
Hooper DC & Jacoby GA. *Cold Spring Harb Perspect Med* 2016;6:a025320 • Robicsek A et al. *Nat Med* 2006;12:83–88 • Jacoby GA. *Clin Infect Dis* 2005;41(Suppl 2):S120–S126

13

Mechanisms of AMR Gene Sharing in Bacteria

Horizontal gene transfer explains rapid spread of resistance across species

- **Transformation:** uptake of naked DNA from environment
- **Transduction:** bacteriophage-mediated gene transfer
- **Conjugation:** direct cell-to-cell plasmid transfer
 - Most clinically important mechanism for resistance spread

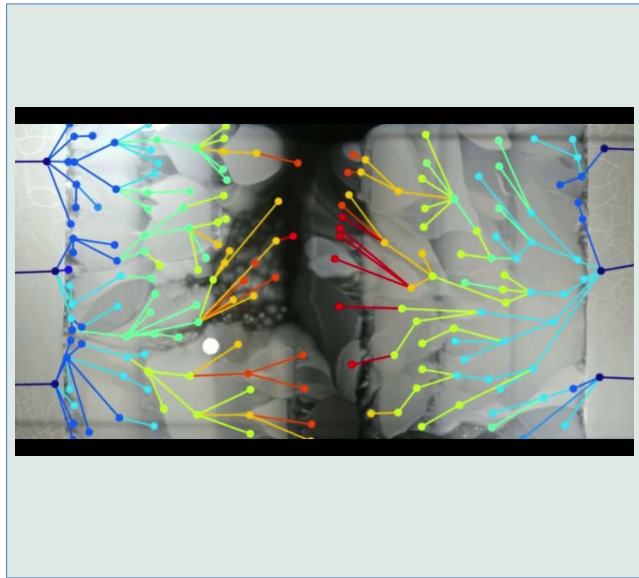


Furuya E, Lowy F. *Nat Rev Microbiol* 2006;4:36–45

14

Selection of Antimicrobial Resistance

- Classic MEGA-plate experiment with stepwise resistance selection
- Bacteria migrate from abx-free zones into progressively higher abx concentrations
- Sub-therapeutic abx are particularly effective at selecting resistance
- Mirrors real-world agricultural and clinical antibiotic exposure patterns



Baym et al. Science 2016

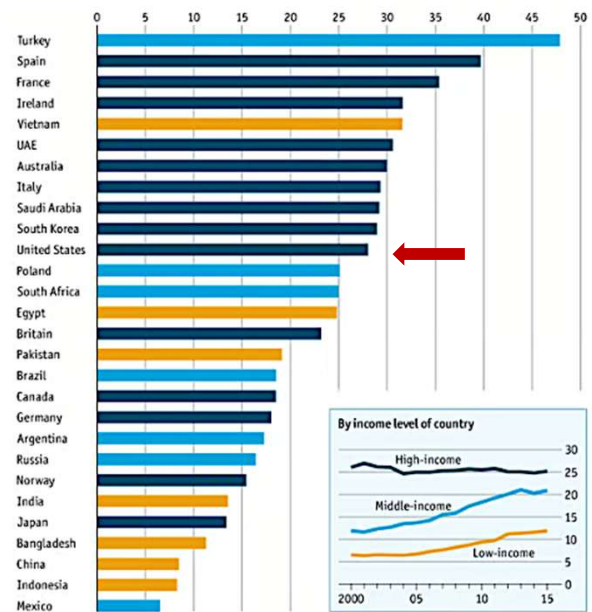
15

Drivers of Antimicrobial Resistance

16

Antibiotic Usage Is High Across the World

- High-income countries have the highest total antibiotic use
- Largest relative increases in use are in low- and middle-income countries
- Global antibiotic consumption increased 65% from 2000 to 2015



Klein et al. PNAS 2016

17

Drivers of Resistance

- Inappropriate antibiotic prescribing in clinical settings
 - Antibiotics prescribed for viral infections; pressure from patients and performance metrics
- Antibiotic use in companion animals
- Agricultural antibiotic use for growth promotion
 - Sub-therapeutic doses highly effective at selecting resistance
 - Although banned in many countries, practice continues globally
- Poor infection control in healthcare settings
 - Facilitates transmission of already-resistant organisms between patients
- Limited access to clean water and sanitation in low-income settings
- Environmental contamination with antibiotic residues

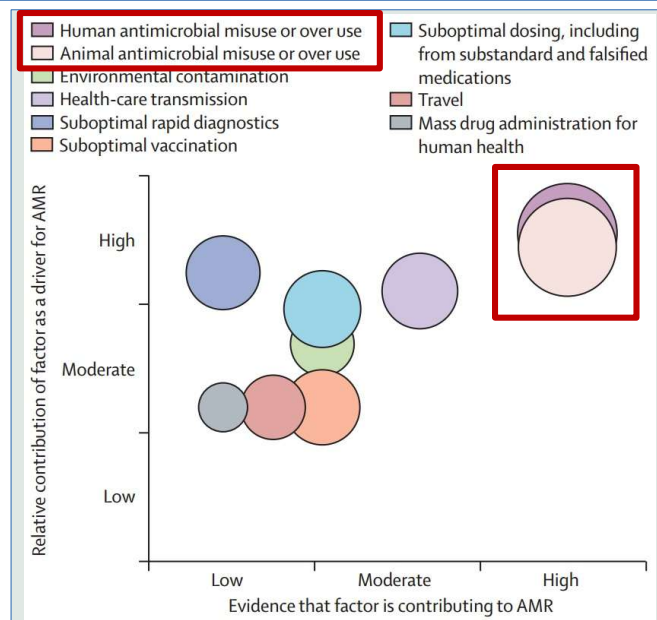


Hawkey et al. JAC 2009;64:i3 • Holmes et al. Lancet 2016

18

Modifiable Drivers of Antimicrobial Resistance

- **Human antibiotic consumption (hospital and community)**
- **Veterinary and agricultural antibiotic use**
- Sanitation and water quality
- Infection prevention and control practices
- Travel and population movement



Holmes et al. Lancet 2016
















19

Focus of This Lecture: GNRs — Key Resistance Types

- **Extended-spectrum beta-lactamases (ESBL)**
 - Defined by resistance to 3rd-generation cephalosporins
- **Carbapenem resistance**
 - Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales (CRE)
 - Some produce carbapenemases (NDM, KPC) → CPE: Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales
 - Others result from combination of multiple drug-resistance mechanisms

20

WHO Priority Pathogens 2024

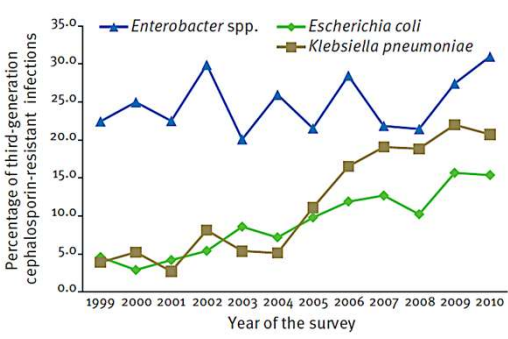
Critical group	High group	Medium group
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Enterobacteriales carbapenem-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Enterobacteriales third-generation cephalosporin-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> carbapenem-resistant</p> </div> </div> <hr style="border: 0.5px dashed #ccc;"/> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>, rifampicin- resistant*</p> <p><small>*RR-TB was included after an independent analysis with parallel criteria and subsequent application of an adapted MCDA matrix.</small></p> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Salmonella</i> Typhi fluoroquinolone-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Shigella</i> spp. fluoroquinolone-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Enterococcus faecium</i> vancomycin-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> carbapenem-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Non-typhoidal <i>Salmonella</i> fluoroquinolone-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> third-generation cephalosporin, and/or fluoroquinolone-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> methicillin-resistant</p> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Group A Streptococci macrolide-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> macrolide-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> ampicillin-resistant</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Group B Streptococci penicillin-resistant</p> </div> </div>

WHO Priority Pathogens List 20

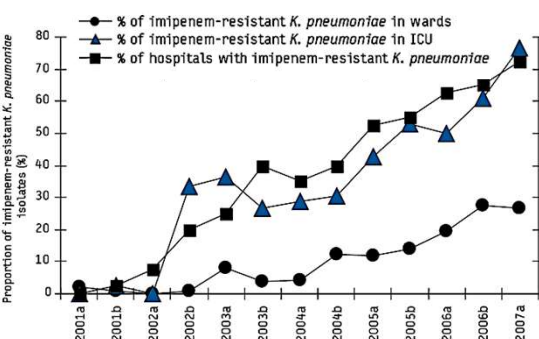
21

Trends in Resistant Enterobacteriales

- Spain: rapid rise in ESBL-producing Enterobacteriales since early 2000s
- Greece: emergence and dramatic increase in CRE (carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriales)
- Trends mirror global pattern: ESBL first, then carbapenem resistance emerging**



Spain (ESBL)



Greece (CRE)

Asensio et al. Eurosurveillance 2011;16:1 • Vatopoulos. Eurosurveillance 2008;1-3:1

22

What's in a Name? Phenotypic vs. Genotypic Definitions

Phenotypic "ESBL"

- Resistance to 3rd-gen cephalosporins on susceptibility testing
 - e.g., ceftriaxone non-susceptible
 - May NOT reflect a true ESBL gene
- Inducible AmpC ≠ ESBL: same phenotype, different mechanism
 - Inducible: *Enterobacter cloacae*
 - Inducible R can look susceptible in micro lab

Genotypic ESBL

- ESBL gene detected by:
 - Whole genome sequencing (WGS) or
 - Targeted PCR for ESBL gene families
- Key families: CTX-M, TEM, SHV
 - CTX-M-15 dominates globally
- Definitive: identifies the actual mechanism
 - Not routinely reported by clinical labs

Why the Distinction Matters

- Treatment: cephalosporins fail for ESBLs
 - Carbapenems are first-line for serious infections
- AmpC: inducible resistance can emerge on therapy
 - Avoid cephalosporins with *Enterobacter* and other AmpC-inducible bacteria

CRE: CDC 2015 Phenotypic Definition

- Resistant to imipenem, meropenem, or doripenem
 - MIC ≥4 mcg/mL
 - AND/OR ertapenem MIC ≥2 mcg/mL
 - AND/OR documented carbapenemase (CPE)
- CRE ≠ CPE: not all CRE produce a carbapenemase
 - Porin loss + AmpC can also confer carbapenem resistance

CPE: Carbapenemase-Producing (genotypic)

- A subset of CRE: enzyme-mediated carbapenem resistance
 - Confirmed by WGS or targeted PCR
- Key enzymes by Ambler class:
 - KPC (Class A) → 90% of CPE in US
 - NDM, VIM, IMP (Class B, metallo) — South Asia, travelers
 - OXA-48 (Class D) — Europe, Middle East
- Horizontally transferable on plasmids between species

Implications: CRE vs. CPE

- Both CRE/CPE require contact precautions
 - Outcomes similarly poor across all CRE subtypes
- CPE is notifiable in many US states
 - Triggers regional outbreak investigation
- Determines treatment options
 - Example: Cefazidime-avibactam is active vs. KPC and OXA-48; NOT active vs. NDM (metallo-enzyme)

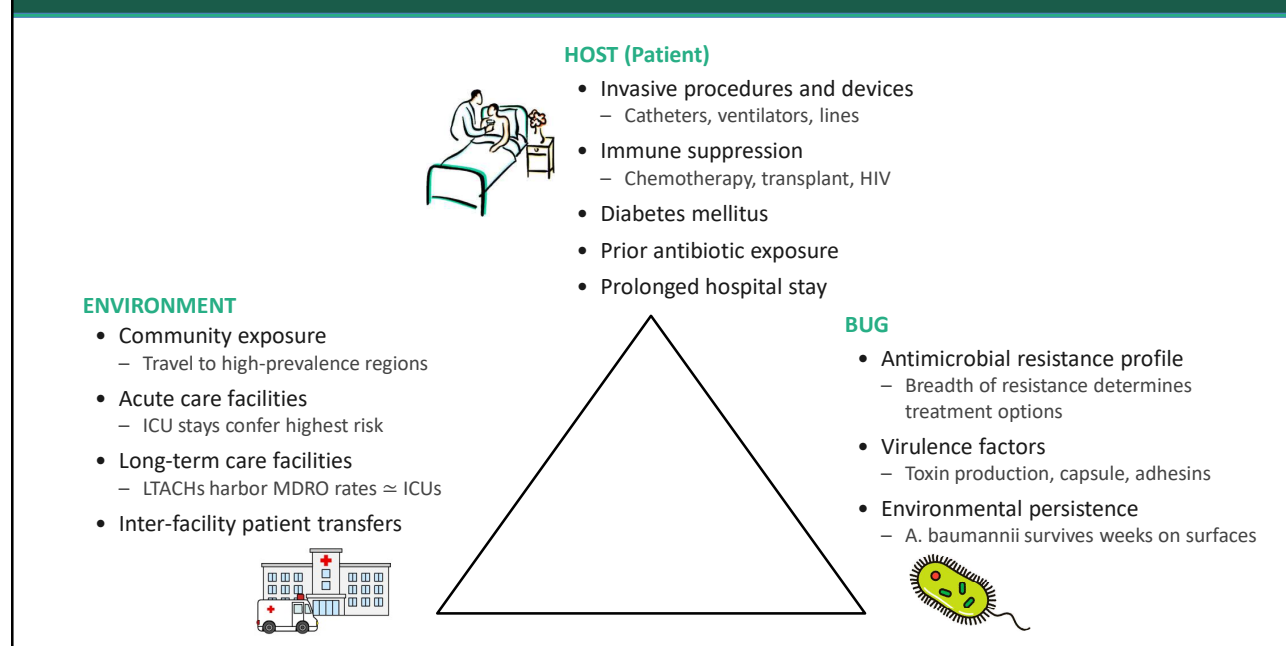
Doi Y et al. *J Travel Med* 2017;24:S44 • CDC CRE definitions 2015 • van Duin D et al. *Lancet Infect Dis* 2020;20:731–741 • Castanheira M et al. *JAC-Antimicrob Resist* 2021;3(3)

23

Risk Factors for Infections with Multidrug-Resistant Organisms (MDROs)

24

Risk Factors for Infections with MDROs



25

HOST: Risk Factors Are Common Across Many MDR Pathogens

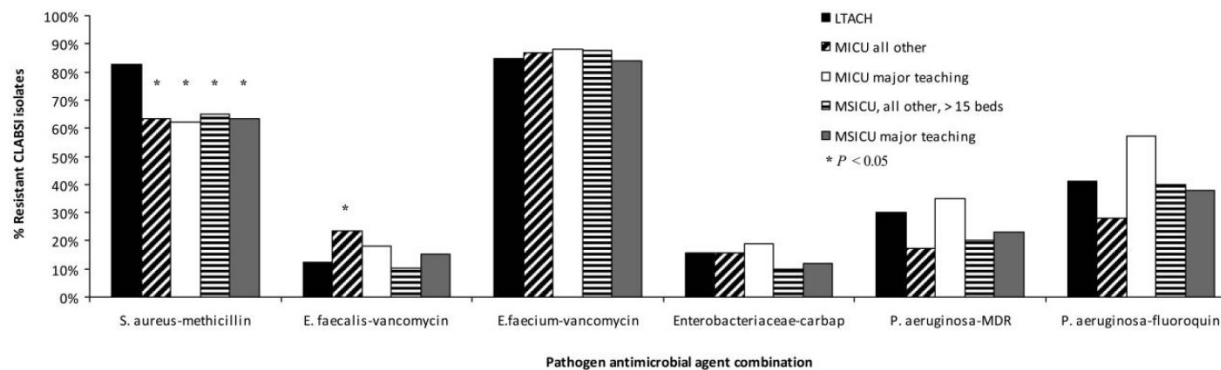
Risk Factors	Odds Ratio or Relative Risk (References)			
	Methicillin-Resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (11, 12, 16–26)	Vancomycin-Resistant <i>Enterococcus</i> (27–48)	Extended-Spectrum β -Lactamase-Producing Gram-Negative Bacilli (49–57)	<i>Clostridium difficile</i> (58–77)
Advanced age	1.2 to 1.3 (17, 23)	2.6 (45)	NS (49, 51, 54, 56)	1.0 to 14.1 (60, 69, 74, 77)
Underlying disease			† (51), NS (49, 56, 57)	
Renal failure	† (12, 17, 18, 22, 23, 26)	4.4 to 6.98 (35, 42)		1.71 to 6.7 (66, 76)
Hematologic cancer	† (12, 17, 23, 26), NS (22)	8.4 (33)		
Hepatic failure	† (12, 17, 23, 26)			
Severity of illness†	1.9 (24)	2.3 to 6.1 (29, 30, 32, 47)	11.6 (53)	2.0 (63)
Interhospital transfer of a patient; patient from a nursing home	6.9 (24)	4.1 to 2.9 (32, 45)	3.6 (52)	3.1 (66)
Extended length of stay	1.7 to 17.5 (16–19, 21–23, 25, 26)	1.1 to 2.9 (28, 31–34, 38, 44)	1.1 to 9.0 (49, 50, 57)	1.3 to 3.6 (62, 67, 75)

- Prior antibiotic use, device exposure, and healthcare contact are universal MDRO risk factors

Safdar & Maki. *Ann Intern Med* 2002;136:834

26

ENVIRONMENT: Prevalence of MDROs in LTACHs similar to ICUs

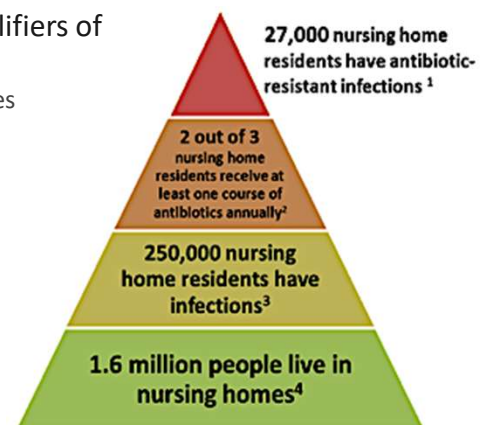


Chitnis et al. ICHE 2012;33:993 • Source: cdc.gov

27

ENVIRONMENT: MDROs in Long-Term Care Settings

- Most common infections treated with antibiotics in nursing homes and long-term acute care hospitals (LTACHs):
 - Respiratory tract infections (33%)
 - Urinary tract infections (32%)
 - Skin and soft tissue infections (12%)
- Nursing homes and LTACHs serve as reservoirs and amplifiers of MDRO spread
 - Patients transferred from LTACHs carry MDROs into other facilities



Chitnis et al. ICHE 2012;33:993 • Source: cdc.gov

28

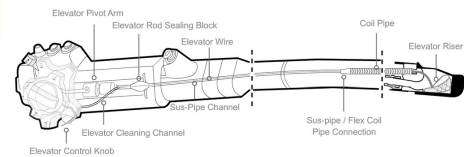
ENVIRONMENT: Endoscope-Related Outbreaks (2013)

EDITORIAL

Editorials represent the opinions of the authors and JAMA and not those of the American Medical Association.

Gastrointestinal Endoscopes A Need to Shift From Disinfection to Sterilization?

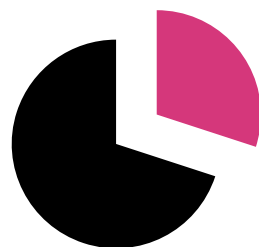
William A. Rutala, PhD, MPH; David J. Weber, MD, MPH



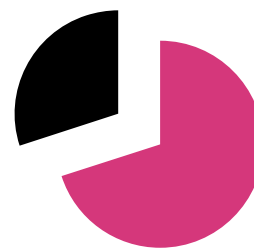
- Several outbreaks of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (CPE)
 - NDM and KPC carbapenemase genes identified
- Linked to elevator channel unique to side-viewing duodenoscopes (used for ERCP)
 - 9 patients infected over 5-month period at one center
 - NDM-producing *E. coli* cultured from scope elevator channel
- No reprocessing lapses identified — hospital was following all guidelines
 - Resolved when hospital switched to ethylene oxide gas sterilization
- Lessons:
 - Likely "tip of the iceberg" — endoscopes are an underrecognized MDRO vector
 - Reprocessing standards may be insufficient for complex-channel scopes

29

BUGS: Rising Threat from MDR Gram-Negative Bacteria (MDR-GNR) in the Hospital



% of all HAI caused by GNRs



% of ICU HAI caused by GNRs

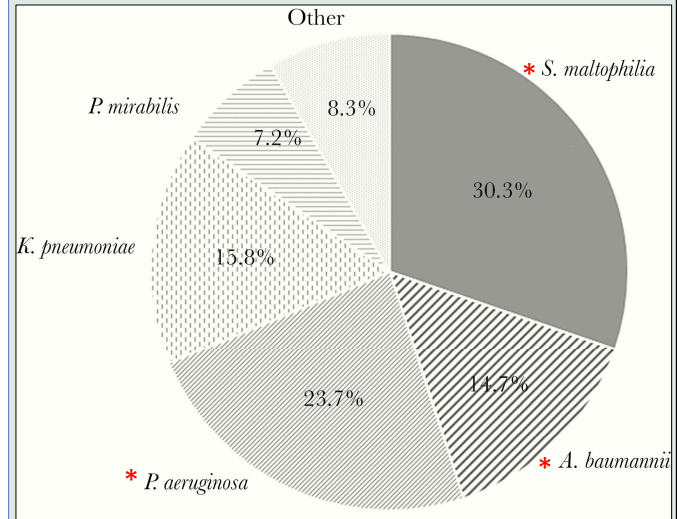
Non-fermenters	<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> <i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i>
Enterobacteriaceae	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> <i>Escherichia coli</i> <i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>

Hidron et al. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2008;29:966–1011 • Peleg & Hooper. *N Engl J Med* 2010;362:1804–1813

30

BUGS: Carbapenem-Resistant GNR Causing Bacteremia in the United States

- Most common CR pathogens in bacteremia (n=1,602 patients):
 - Primarily non-fermenting GNRs
 - *K. pneumoniae* most common among fermenting GNRs



Open Forum Infect Dis 2020;7(5):ofaa141

31

Risk Factors & At-Risk Population Differs by BUG

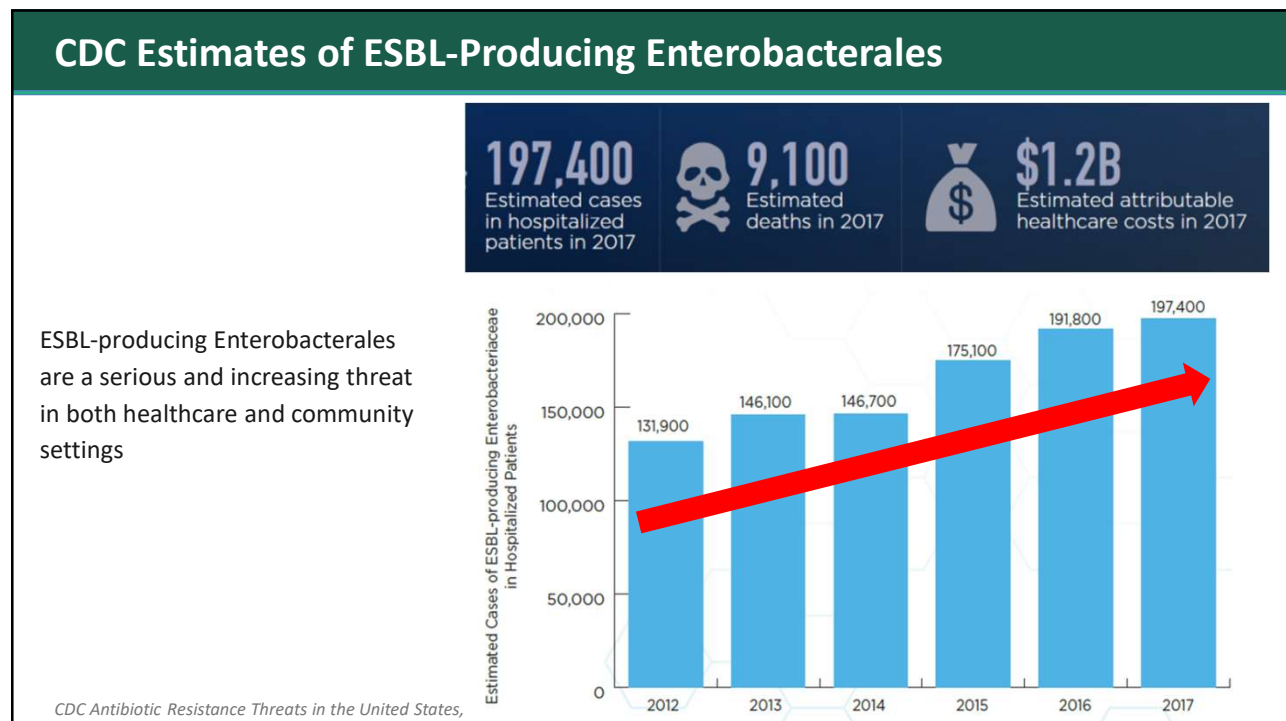
	Enterobacterales	Non-fermenting GNRs
Risk factors	LOS ICU stay Catheters / devices Ventilation Prior antibiotics Travel	LOS ICU stay Catheters / devices Ventilation Prior antibiotics Trauma (esp. burns)
At-risk population	Acute settings Travel to areas of high prevalence Potential for community spread	High-risk patients ICU and burn units Rarely community-acquired infection

ECDC CPE Risk Assessment 2011 • Peleg et al. Clin Microbiol Rev 2008;21:538–582

32

ESBL-Producing Enterobacterales / Enterobacteriaceae

33

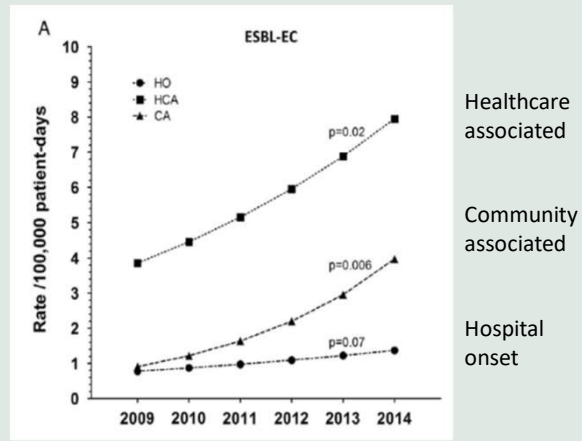


34

Community Spread of ESBL E. coli

- ESBL E. coli: highly community-associated
 - Patients admitted from home with ESBL E. coli infections
 - Incidence increasing in the community over time
- ESBL E. coli spread is patient-to-patient via community contact, food, environment

- 26 community hospitals
- Southeastern US

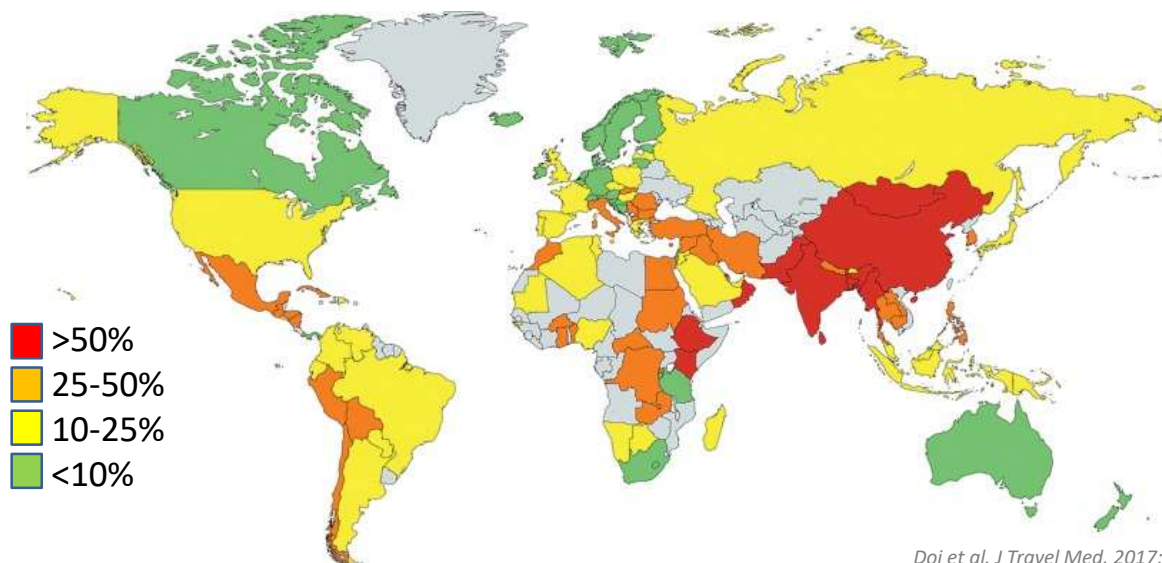


Thaden et al. ICHE 2016;37(1):49

35

ESBL Producers Increasing Among Global *E. coli* Isolates

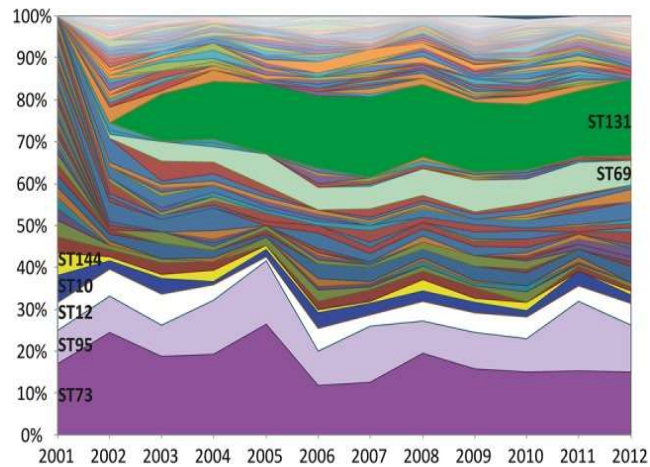
- Ongoing global increase since 1990s with spread of CTX-M genes



Doi et al. J Travel Med. 2017; 24:S44

36

Sequence Type (ST) 131 E. coli — Triple Threat



- **Resistance:**
 - Fluoroquinolones + ESBL (CTX-M-15)
 - Co-resistance to multiple non-beta-lactam agents
- **Virulence:**
 - 10 commonly shared virulence genes
 - Associated with more severe infections including bacteremia
- **Transmissibility:**
 - Many documented community transmission cases
 - Animal and food sources identified

Nicolas-Chanoine et al. CMR 2014;27(3):543 • Kallonen et al. Genome Res 2017;27(8):1437

37

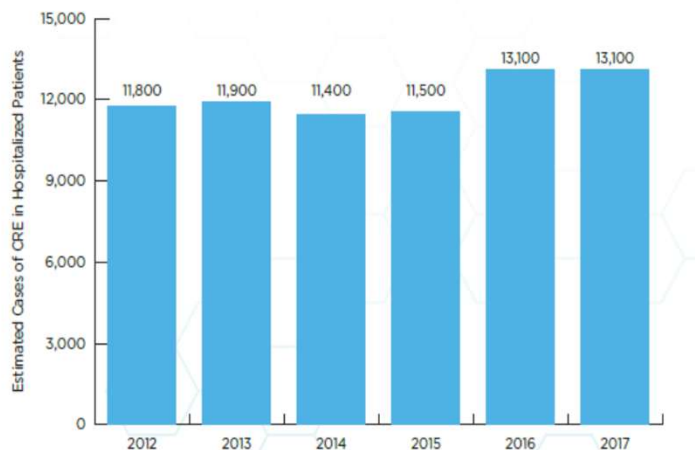
Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacterales (CRE)

38

CDC Estimates of CRE in the US



CRE is a rapidly emerging urgent threat in US healthcare settings



CDC Antibiotic Resistance Threats in the United States, 2019

39

CRACKLE-1: High-connectivity Within the Network of Facilities

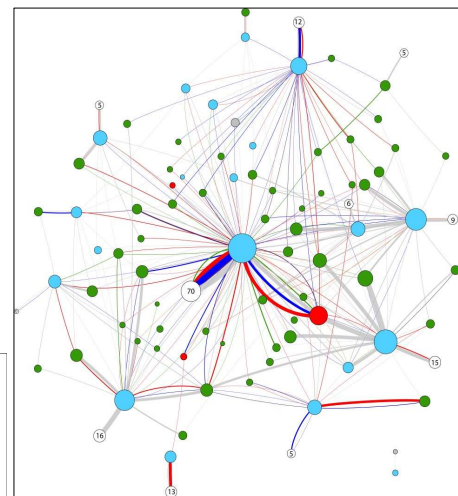
CRACKLE-1: Consortium on Resistance Against Carbapenems in Klebsiella and other Enterobacteriaceae

- Hospitalized patients with culture-positive carbapenem-resistant K. pneumoniae (CRKP)
- PCR for molecular strain typing on all available isolates
- Network analyses at the facility and individual patient level

Key finding: outbreaks were facility-driven, not community-driven

- High degree of facility connectivity
- CRE spread along patient transfer networks
- intervention requires regional coordination

- Acute care hospital
- Skilled nursing facility
- Long term acute care
- ⊗ x facilities with 1 connection



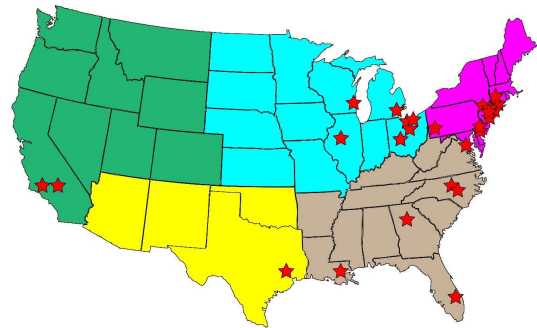
van Duin et al. Lancet Infect Dis 2020;20(6):731–741

40

CRE in the US: CRACKLE-2 Data



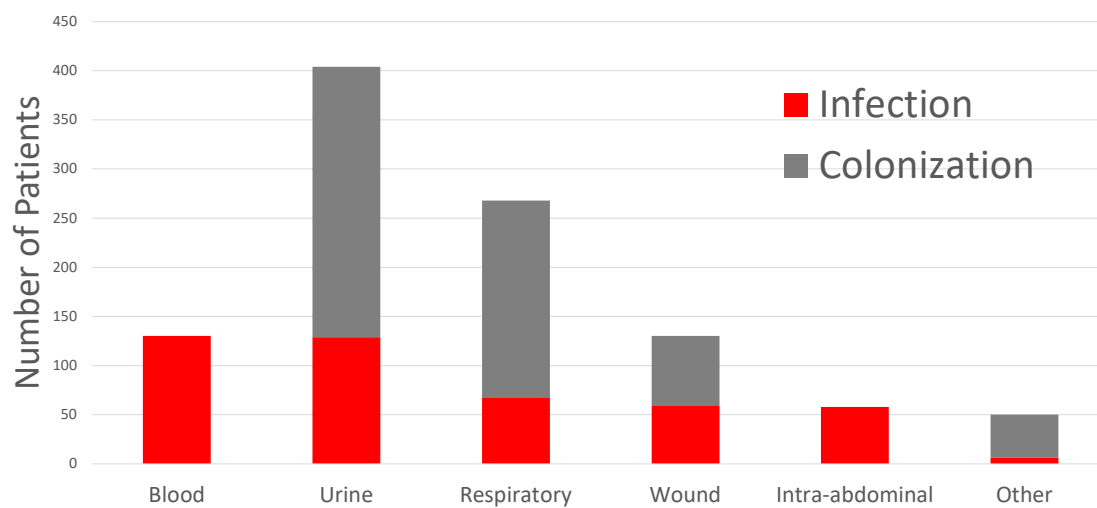
- Prospective, observational, multi-center, cohort study (2016-2017)
 - Period: 2016–2017
 - Consecutive hospitalized patients with CDC-defined CRE
 - 1,040 patients from 49 US medical centers analyzed
- Comprehensive characterization of CRE subtypes, species, and outcomes
- Analysis of first unique 1,040 patients from 49 US medical centers



van Duin et al. *Lancet Infect Dis* 2020;20(6):731–741

41

Distribution of CRE Culture Sources (CRACKLE-2)



van Duin et al. *Lancet Infect Dis* 2020;20(6):731–741 • n=1,040 patients

42

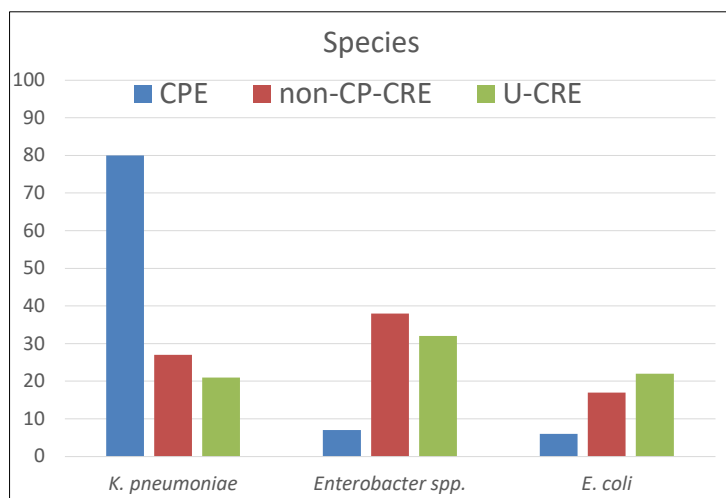
CRE: 3 Subsets (CRACKLE-2)

- All isolates met CDC criteria for CRE at local microbiology laboratory
- CPE: Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales
 - Carbapenemase gene present on whole genome sequencing and/or targeted PCR
- Non-CP-CRE: Non-carbapenemase-producing CRE
 - No carbapenemase gene present
 - Carbapenem resistance confirmed in central laboratory
- U-CRE: "Unconfirmed" CRE
 - No carbapenemase gene present
 - Carbapenem susceptible in central laboratory (resistant only by local testing)

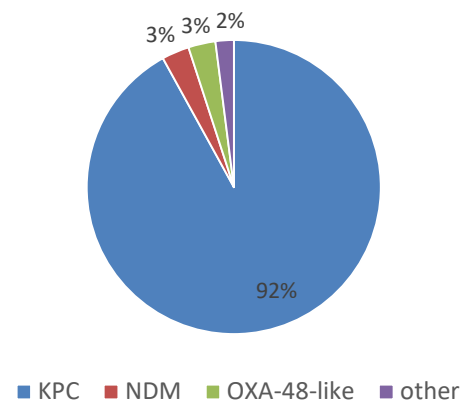
van Duin et al. Lancet Infect Dis 2020;20(6):731–741

43

Species with Carbapenemases (CRACKLE-2)



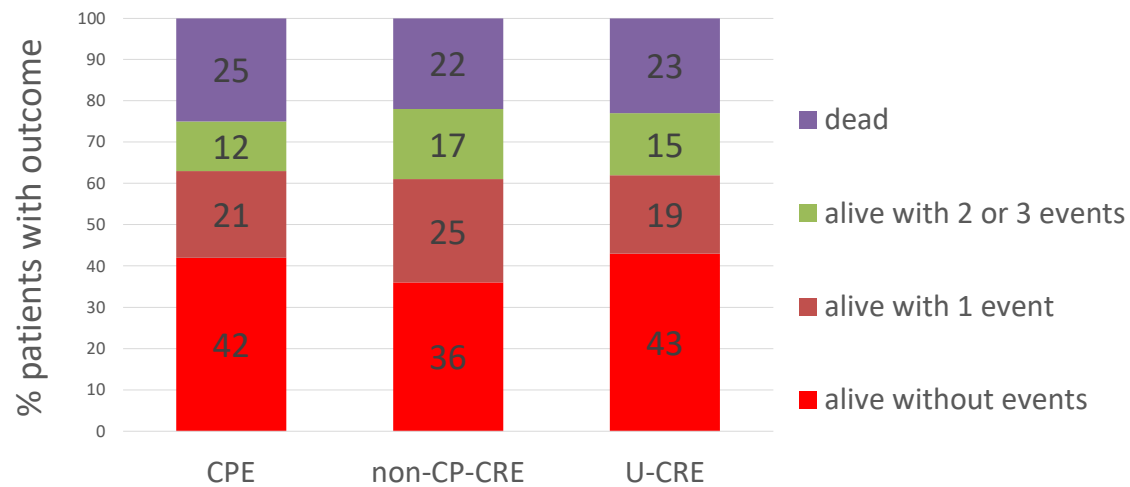
Carbapenemases in CPE



van Duin et al. Lancet Infect Dis 2020;20(6):731–741

44

DOOR Outcomes Are Similar Across All Three CRE Patient Groups

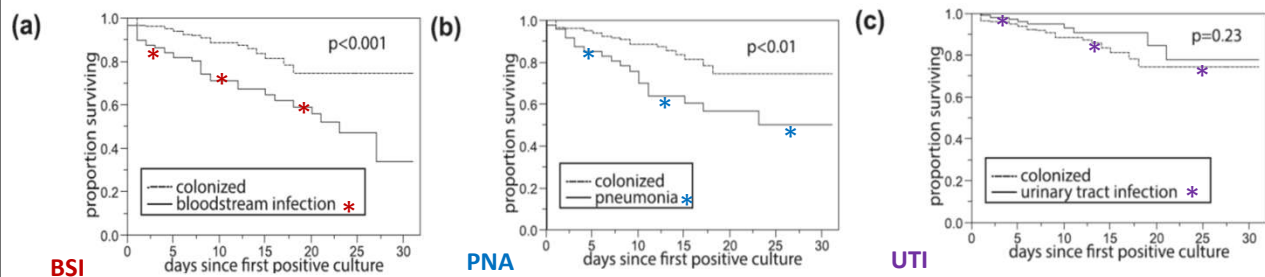


* "Events" include lack of clinical response, unsuccessful discharge, and adverse events

van Duin et al. *Lancet Infect Dis* 2020;20(6):731–741

45

Evaluating Outcomes in CRE Infections



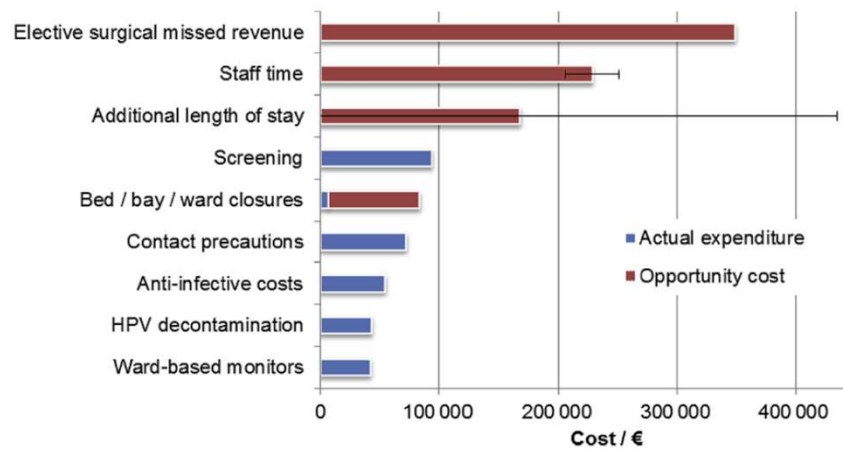
- **BSI/pneumonia** CRE infections
 - All-cause mortality 39%
- CRE-colonized
 - All-cause mortality 12%
- "Excess mortality" of 27% (but no difference in UTI)

Hauck et al. *CMI* 2016;22:513

46

Financial Cost of CRE

- NDM-producing CRE outbreak in UK
 - 40 patients in 5 hospitals
- Total costs €1,100,000 (\$1,163,415)



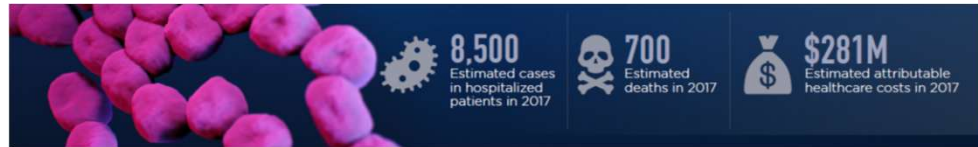
Otter et al. CMI 2017;23:188

47

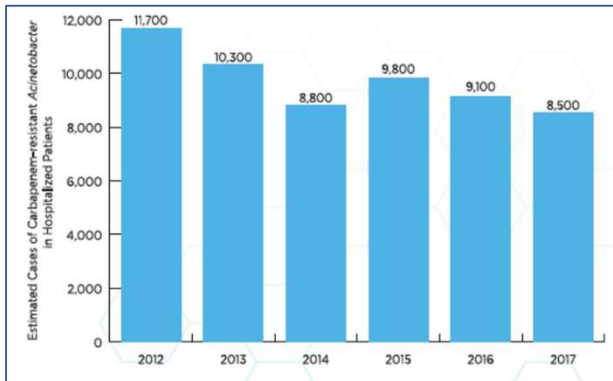
Carbapenem-Resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* (CRAB)

48

CRAB in the US



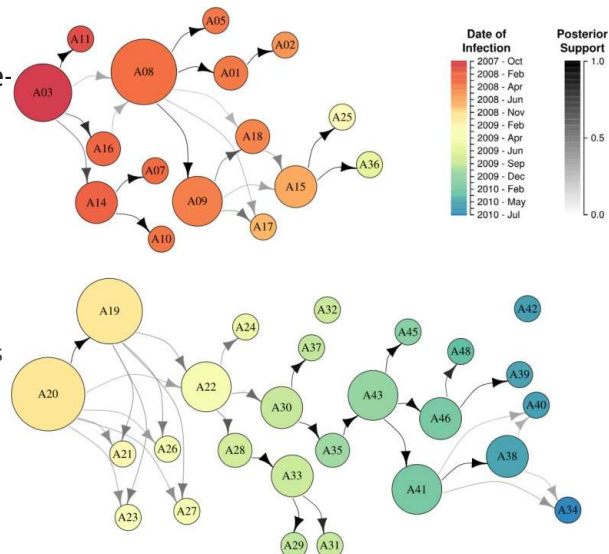
- Healthcare-associated; affects the most severely ill patients
 - ICU patients, ventilated patients, burn unit patients
- Capable of sustained nosocomial outbreaks
- Environmental persistence: survives weeks to months on dry surfaces
- Commonly multidrug-resistant
- Rapid acquisition of AMR genes through horizontal, plasmid-mediated transfer



49

CRAB as a Nosocomial Outbreak Pathogen

- 46 isolates from burn unit at UNC (2007–2010)
- 3 separate clonal outbreaks identified by whole-genome sequencing (WGS)
- Extensive environmental contamination
- Primarily OXA carbapenemase genes identified
- **Key implications for infection control:**
 - WGS essential to distinguish outbreak from sporadic cases
 - Environmental sampling required to identify reservoirs
 - Enhanced cleaning and cohort isolation may be necessary

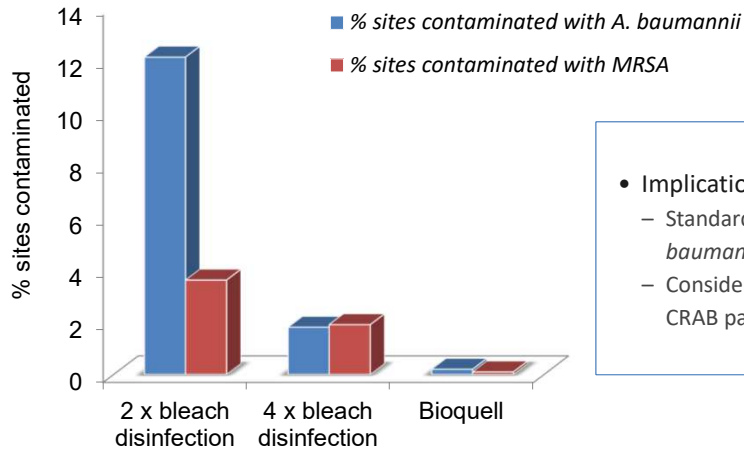


Kanamori et al. AAC 2016;60(3):1249

50

Persistent Contamination with *Acinetobacter baumannii*

- 26.6% of rooms remained contaminated with MRSA or *A. baumannii* after 4 rounds of bleach
- HP vapor decontamination outperformed bleach but did not eliminate contamination



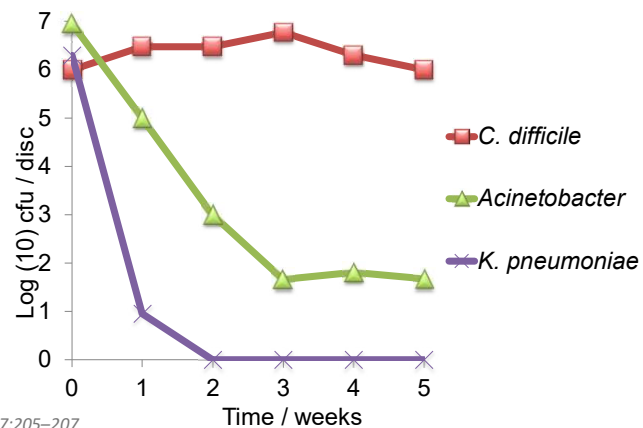
- Implications for infection control:
 - Standard bleach protocols insufficient for *A. baumannii* in outbreak settings
 - Consider enhanced terminal cleaning protocols for CRAB patients

Manian et al. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2011;32:667–672

51

Persistent Contamination and Surface Survival

- *Klebsiella* eliminated by hydrogen peroxide vapor
- *Acinetobacter* survived hydrogen peroxide vapor decontamination
- *C. difficile* (spore-former) survived and persisted over weeks
- Organism-specific survival determines cleaning strategy



Otter & French. *J Clin Microbiol* 2009;47:205–207

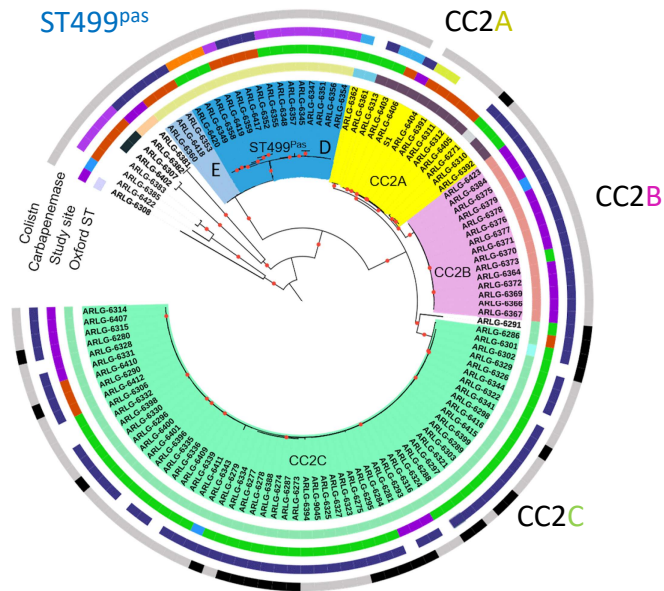
52

Acinetobacter baumannii in the US (n=115 Isolates, WGS)

- Clonal complexes CC2A, CC2B, CC2C dominate in clinical isolates
- ST499 also identified in recent years
- Genomic surveillance reveals clonal spread within and across facilities

Site	Oxford ST	Carbapenemase	Colistin
Cleveland	124	NONE	R
Chapel Hill	203	OXA-207	I
Pittsburgh	208	OXA-23	R
Houston	218	OXA-24	I
	281	OXA-72	
	345	OXA-237	
	417		
	451		
	1034		
	1557		
	1839		
	NF		

lovleva et al. mBio 2022;13(2):e0275921



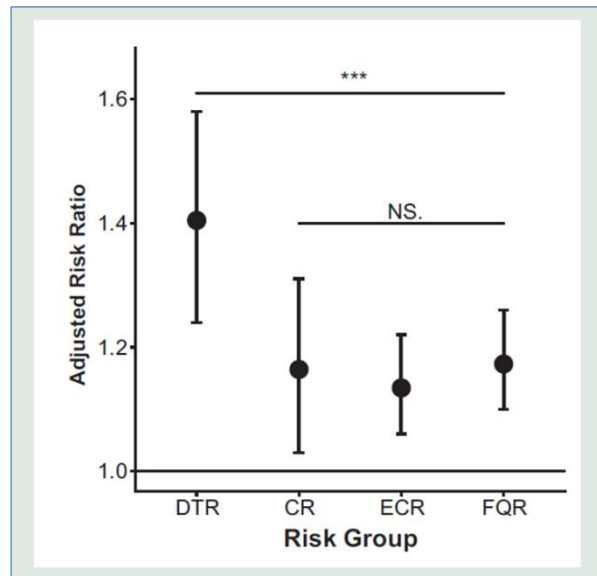
53

The Rising Threat of Difficult-To-Treat Gram-Negative Bacteria

54

Higher Mortality for GNRs with Difficult-To-Treat Resistance (DTR)

- DTR = Non-susceptibility to ALL first-line agents:
 - Piperacillin-tazobactam
 - Ceftazidime / Cefepime
 - Aztreonam
 - Meropenem / Imipenem-cilastatin
 - Ciprofloxacin / Levofloxacin
- DTR associated with significantly higher mortality vs. non-DTR infections



Kadri et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2018;67(12):1803–1814

55

Novel Treatment Options and the Antibiotic Pipeline

- The pipeline is thin: IC prevention is essential because treatment options are limited
- Recently approved agents for MDR-GNRs within the past 10 years:
 - Ceftazidime-avibactam: active against KPC- and OXA-48-producing CRE
 - Ceftolozane-tazobactam: active against MDR *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
 - Meropenem-vaborbactam: active against KPC-producing CRE
 - Imipenem-cilastatin-relebactam: active against KPC- and some OXA-producing CRE
 - Cefiderocol: siderophore cephalosporin; broad GNR coverage including NDM and CRAB
- Challenges:
 - Market failure: antibiotics are not profitable — multiple companies have gone bankrupt
 - Resistance emerges quickly even to novel agents
 - WHO 2022 pipeline analysis: most agents are derivatives of existing classes
- Conclusion: Prevention remains the most cost-effective strategy

WHO Antibacterial Pipeline Report 2022 • Theuretzbacher et al. *Nat Rev Microbiol* 2020;18:286–298

56

Summary

- MDROs are a growing global threat: 1.27 million deaths directly attributable to AMR in 2019
 - Projected to reach 1.91 million annual attributable deaths by 2050
- Worse outcomes in patients with MDRO infections vs. susceptible organisms
- Carbapenem-resistant gram-negative bacteria are especially worrisome
 - Limited treatment options; poor outcomes; high financial costs
- ESBL producers more easily treated but spread quickly in the community
- Infection control interventions are essential and effective:
 - Novel antibiotics provide options but are not a substitute for prevention