

Improving Visibility and Surveillance of the AMR Crisis



Welcome to The AMR Global Health Academy Newsletter December 2025

The AMR Global Health Academy serves the global health professional and antimicrobial steward in low- and middle-income countries with a free online educational curriculum designed to advance AMR knowledge and best practices. Every month, via the Newsletter, we share important updates from the AMR field, especially as it relates to AMR testing, diagnostics, and surveillance. We feature news stories, articles, events, resources, and AMR champions battling the real-world AMR problems.

As the year ends, we want to wish everyone a joyful and peaceful holiday season. We appreciate

your readership, interest, and collaboration to combat AMR. We want to continue improving this newsletter for 2026 and have set up a [SURVEY](#) to get your input and feedback. Please do consider taking a few minutes to leave your suggestions and constructive criticism – let’s continue working together in 2026 to fight AMR. Happy New Year to all!

🎓 **The AMR Academy** has numerous courses and educational activities designed to empower AMR stewards, particularly global health professionals from LMICs. Check out our latest educational offering, the [AMR Life Support Course](#), designed to translate awareness into daily practice and empower a global network of AMR champions protecting health now and for the future. (Materials available in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.)

To join the AMR Global Health Academy, enroll in the Global Health Continuing Professional Development (GHCPD) free online AMR courses [here](#).

👤 **AMR GHCPD Faculty**

Global Health Continuing Professional Development (GHCPD) faculty are global and regional experts in their field and drive the educational curriculum to ensure information is relevant, pertinent, and applicable to the needs of learners from low resource settings. Here we would like to profile some of our faculty members who generously continue to support the GHCPD educational platform.



Dr. Patty García is a Professor and former Dean of the School of Public Health at Cayetano Heredia University (UPCH) in Lima, Peru, and a member of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine. A physician by training, she completed residencies in Internal Medicine (University of Miami) and Infectious Diseases (University of Washington), and holds Master’s and PhD degrees in Public Health and Medicine.

Dr. García has served as Peru’s Minister of Health and as Chief of the Peruvian National Institute of Health. She is an Affiliate Professor in the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington and at the School of Public Health at Tulane University. Her global leadership includes membership in multiple Lancet Commissions—on the Education of Health Professionals for the 21st Century, Diagnostics, Medical Oxygen, and Implementation Research—and she currently chairs the Lancet Commission on Cancer and Health Systems.

Recognized internationally as a leader in global health, Dr. García’s work spans implementation and health systems research, quality of care, reproductive health, STI/HIV, diagnostics, medical informatics, and HPV/cervical cancer. She has served on several global advisory bodies, including WHO’s Strategic and Technical Advisory Committee on HIV, Viral Hepatitis and STIs (STAC-HHS) and the WHO Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on In Vitro Diagnostics (SAGE IVD).

Looking ahead, Dr. García is focused on advancing research and policy impact in Peru and Latin America, with particular emphasis on noncommunicable diseases, NG sentinel surveillance, community participation in research, equity and inclusion of vulnerable populations, and the design of high-quality, resilient health systems.

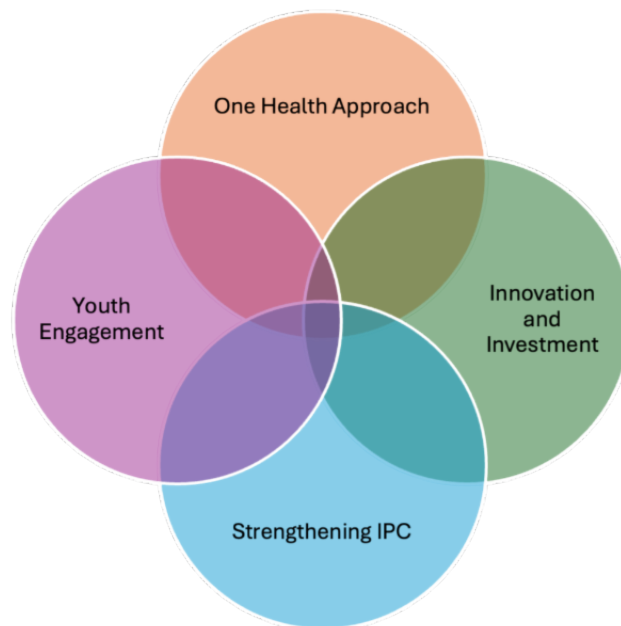
💡 **Highlights from World AMR Awareness Week**

(18 – 24 November 2025)

This year's World Antibiotic Awareness Week theme was **"Act Now: Protect Our Present, Secure Our Future"**. Some key publications from that week include:

- 2025 Global Antibiotic Resistance Surveillance Report ([here](#))
- Integrated Drug Resistance Action Framework for HIV, Hepatitis B and C and STIs, 2026-2030 ([here](#))
- Policy brief on AMR in fragile and conflict-affected settings ([here](#))
- Results from the 2025 tracking AMR country self-assessment survey (TrACSS) (webinar [here](#) and dashboard [here](#))

Organizations across the globe focused and prioritized several salient and timely elements in the fight against the AMR crisis.



News Story

Might antibiotic spraying on food crops in the US be a thing of the past? Taking steps to tackle AMR



The Center for Biological Diversity Antibiotic Resistance Action Center, The George Washington University

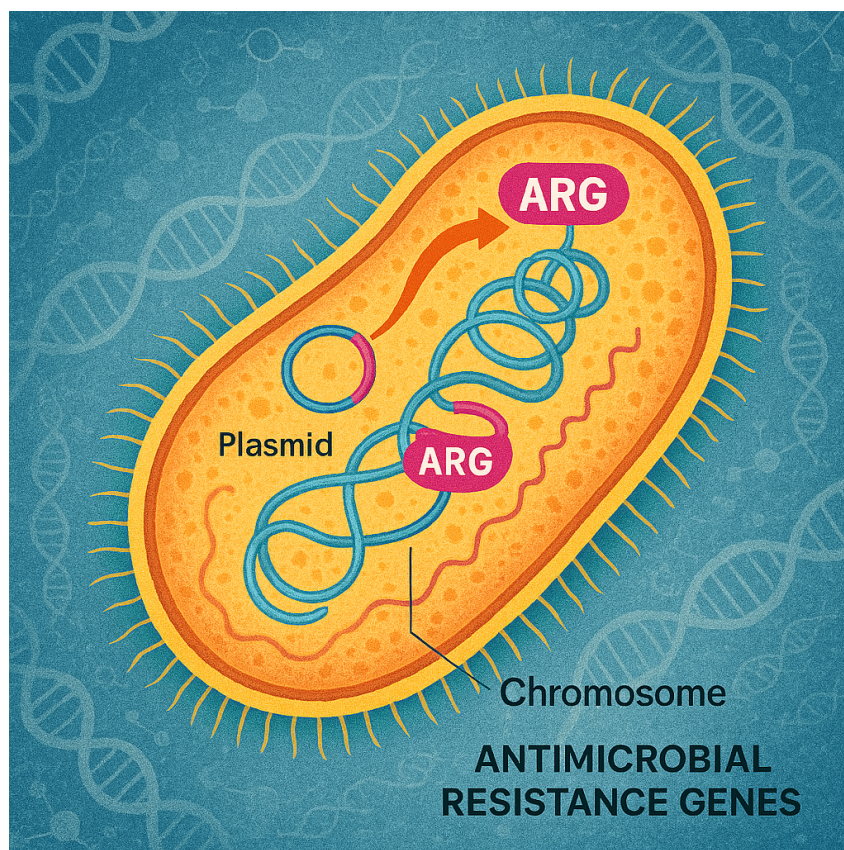
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the US has allowed the use of certain antibiotics as pesticides to support food production through killing bacteria that could harm or limit the food supply. However, many believe that doing so is fueling the AMR crisis in bacteria, fungi, and the

environment. In 2017, the US CDC published a report noting that resistance to antibiotics used as pesticides were found in bacteria that caused human disease (see the report [here](#)).

A [legal petition](#) was filed at the end of November demanding the EPA ban the use of medically important drugs as pesticides in food production. The EPA has five years to respond to the petition. See news articles [here](#) and [here](#).

Article Spotlight

Understanding the complexity of antibiotic resistance genes



A recent [study](#) in nature communications looking at over 1,200 sewage samples from 351 cities across 111 countries sought to understand how antimicrobial resistance genes (ARGs) spread around the world.

Acquired resistance genes are considered the “mobile threats” as they can jump from one type of bacteria to another causing dangerous clinical infections. This study found that these genes follow distinct geographical patterns and are heavily influenced by the local environment, national borders, and human or animal factors.

Latent resistance genes are considered the “hidden threats”. While they don’t easily jump to other types of bacteria, this study found that they represent a hidden reservoir of future resistance. These genes are much more evenly dispersed globally – suggesting they have existed for a long time.

Though the authors suggest that the global distribution of antibiotic resistance is shaped by selection and competition, monitoring the specific bacterial groups that may be acting as global reservoirs will be critical to identifying and preventing widespread emergence of new resistance threats.



In Case You Missed It

The African Society for Laboratory Medicine hosted a *Special Convention on Diagnostics that focused on Accelerating Diagnostic Innovation and Collaboration to Combat AMR and Advance Health Security in Africa* in Nairobi, Kenya from 25-27 November 2025. We will share the meeting report once available.

CARB-X has a variety of resources, including presentation recordings, publications, and educational bootcamps online and freely accessible. Please see [here](#).

Last month, WHO published the Enhanced Gonococcal Antimicrobial Surveillance Programme (EGASP): gonorrhoea treatment optimization, 2024 report. Please see the report [here](#).



Don't Miss

In late October, Unitaid launched a request for proposals to *Improve access diagnostics through integrated tools and delivery approaches* in an effort to expand access to diagnostics. Please see [here](#) for more information. The deadline for proposal submission is 19 January 2026.

The AMR 2026 Summit, hosted by the Fleming Initiative and Australia's Science Agency, CSIRO, will take place 18-20 February 2026 in Sydney, Australia. Please see [here](#) for more.

The 10th AMR Conference 2026 will be held 3-4 March 2026 in Basel, Switzerland. Please see [here](#) for more.

2026 Gordon Research Conference (GRC), *Antibacterials of Tomorrow to Combat the Global Threat of Antimicrobial Resistance*, will be held 8-13 March 2026 in Tuscany, Italy. See [here](#) for more details.

ESCMID Global 2026, the annual meeting of the European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, will be held 17-21 April 2026 in Munich, Germany. Registration is now open. See [here](#) for more.

The 2nd Global AMR Innovators Conference (GAMRIC) will be held 22-24 September 2026 in Lisbon, Portugal.

The Interdisciplinary Course on Antibiotics and Resistance (ICARe) will host the 10th course on antibiotics and resistance from 10-18 October, 2026 in Annecy, France. Please see [here](#) for more information and eventual registration.



What's Next

As we continue to read articles and publications noting the ongoing and increasing AMR crisis, we must remember the vast wealth of existing research, collaboration, and energy available to fight the crisis. May 2026 mark considerable gains in progress! Until then, we wish you all a restful and wonderful holiday season.

Support for this initiative has been provided through an unrestricted educational grant from bioMérieux.