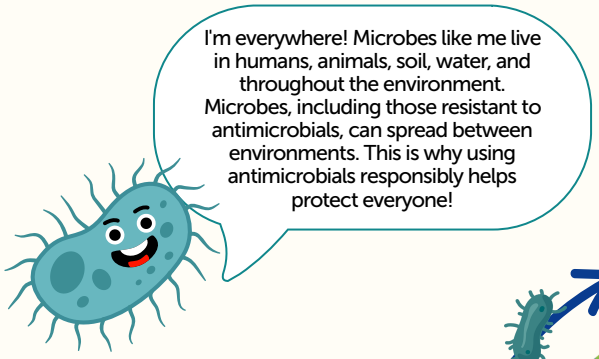
Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System CAHSS DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH CANADA

Nova Scotia Health Antimicrobial Stewardship

Antimicrobial Resistance and One Health, a Shared Responsibility

One Health recognizes the connection between human, animal, and environmental health. Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) occurs when microbes, such as bacteria, develop the ability to survive medicines, like antibiotics, designed to kill or control them, making infections harder to treat.



Human Health

Responsible use in human medicine helps preserve effective treatment options and protect all people.

- Use antimicrobials only when prescribed and needed
- Follow directions exactly
- Prevent infections through hand washing and vaccination
- Ask your healthcare provider about how to manage symptoms, not all infections need antibiotics

Animal Health

Stewardship in animal health supports animal welfare, food systems, and public health.

- Only use antimicrobials as directed by your veterinarian
- Do not use antimicrobials prescribed to people on animals
- Support vaccination and good husbandry practices
- Do not pressure veterinarians for antimicrobials



Environmental Health

The environment can contribute to the spread of resistance, so prevention and responsible management matter.

- Dispose of medications properly, such as returning unused antibiotics to the pharmacy.
- Support infection prevention and sanitation systems.
- Recognize that environmental health affects human and animal health

Responsible antimicrobial use in animals supports animal health and welfare, food systems, and public health.

Protect your family, protect your animals, protect the environment.

Learn more, Take action

Human Health Resources

AMR Aware Canada

NS Health AMS Program – Using Antibiotics Safely

National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Disease

Animal Health Resources

Farmed Animal Antimicrobial Stewardship Initiative

Animal Health Canada AMR Action

Environmental Health Resources

Canadian Water Network

Environmental Surveillance Strategy on AMR

For additional animal health resources, check out the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System at www.cahss.ca