



# THE ANTIMICROBIAL TIME BOMB

Are you part of the problem?

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## Controlling Antimicrobial Resistance – Fact Sheet

Antimicrobial resistance is an inevitability of antimicrobial use. Bacteria develop resistance naturally through evolution.

Controlling antimicrobial resistance is a shared responsibility with shared consequences.

Most antimicrobials are naturally-occurring. Some antimicrobials are produced artificially through chemical process, but most are produced through the fermentation of microorganisms, bacteria, and fungi.

Antimicrobials have been in use as medicine since the 1930s. They are effective against bacterial infections but not viral infections.

The production and distribution of antimicrobials is regulated federally, though the medical professionals responsible for prescribing and dispensing them are regulated under provincial legislation.

Regular vaccinations and other preventative measures are essential to reducing the use of antimicrobials. Proper diet, exercise, biosecurity, and hygiene also improve health and reduce the need for antimicrobials.

The only way to be certain that antimicrobials are necessary for treatment is to verify a bacterial infection through diagnostic testing.

Antimicrobials are invaluable in treating and preventing bacterial infections that may have resulted from common surgeries.

Antimicrobials can be administered in a number of ways including topical ointments, bolus/tablets, feed, injection, intramammary, and water.

For more information, visit [www.timeisrunningout.ca](http://www.timeisrunningout.ca) or contact Dr. Duane Landals, Senior Advisor to the ABVMA at [duane.landals@abvma.ca](mailto:duane.landals@abvma.ca).