Antibiotic Misuse Portends Future Utah Health Crisis—Public-Private Cooperation Needed

KADE ROBERTS

UtahStateUniversity_®





About Me

- Senior
- Chemistry and Biochemistry and Biology Departments
- Lab Technician in the Institute of Antiviral Research
- Hometown: Holladay, UT
- Post-Grad: Medical School, specifically Emergency Medicine or Infectious Disease

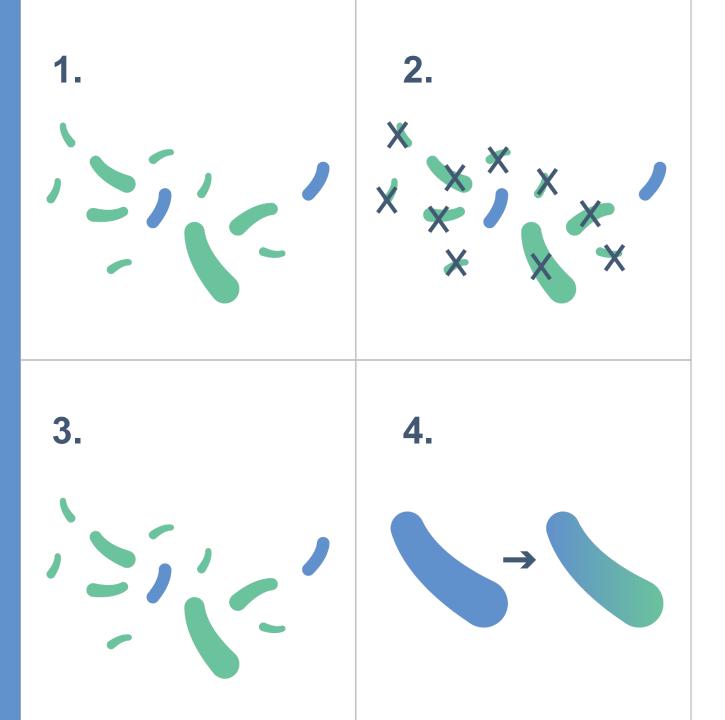
How I Got Started

- Work in the Institute for Antiviral Research where we are on the cutting edge of COVID-19 studies
- The project grew from a Center for Anticipatory Intelligence assignment to identify an "over the horizon" threat to US national security and an interest in the interdisciplinary disciplines of biology, epidemiology, sociology and political science.

My Project

- Identify a serious threat to US security
- Consider every angle:
 - Society's reliance on antibiotics
 - How antibiotic resistance happens
 - Its current impact
- Extrapolate current trends to a future without antibiotics
- Develop policy recommendations to aid in preventing that future





My Results

Bacteria are growing more resistant to antibiotics because of rampant misuse. This could, in the long term, lead to widespread health problems, including but not limited to another pandemic and economic disruption.

Impact on Utah

- While viral, COVID-19 serves as a blueprint for how a pandemic of antibiotic-resistant bacteria could impact our state and others.
- There are measures that can be taken to guard against this problem and aid in the reduction of antibiotic misuse.

My Research Experience

- Research has helped me identify how my academic passion in science fit into other disciplines I find interesting.
- This project and my work in the antiviral research lab will help me as I pursue medical school, both in learning useful skills and thinking about my field as part of the broader world.