

DRUG-RESISTANT *SHIGELLA*

THREAT LEVEL **SERIOUS**



77,000
Estimated infections
each year



Less than 5
Estimated deaths
each year

Shigella bacteria can cause diarrhea, fever, abdominal pain. These bacteria spread in feces through contact between people, including sexual activity, or through contaminated food, water, or surfaces.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

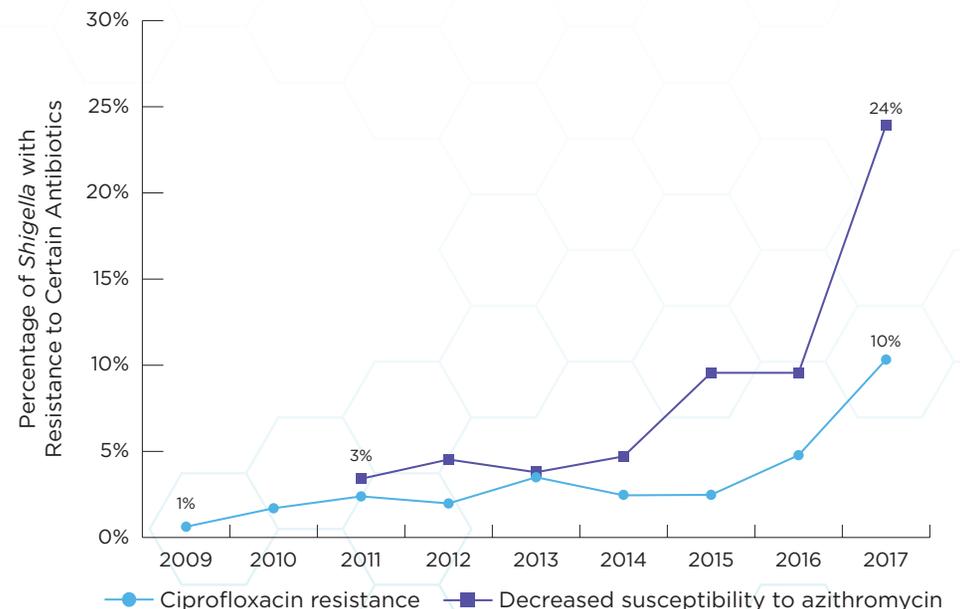
- *Shigella* causes about 450,000 infections each year, and an estimated \$93 million in direct medical costs.
- High-risk groups include young children, men who have sex with men, people with weakened immune systems, and travelers to countries with unsafe water and inadequate sanitation.
- Most *Shigella* infections resolve on their own without treatment. Antibiotics such as azithromycin and ciprofloxacin help treat patients with severe infection or weakened immune system, and reduce the spread of germs by decreasing the number of days the patient has diarrhea.



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

RESISTANCE OVER TIME

Resistant *Shigella* infections have increased notably since 2013.



NEW PREVENTION EFFORTS NEEDED

Shigella infections have become increasingly resistant since 2013. *Shigella* is difficult to control because it spreads easily and rapidly between people, including through sexual activity. Of particular concern are frequently reported outbreaks of multidrug-resistant *Shigella* among men who have sex with men. Most *Shigella* surveillance systems do not routinely collect sexual behavior information.

Routine case investigation and follow-up strategies used for sexually transmitted diseases (STD) could be adapted to strengthen prevention efforts for *Shigella*. Public health experts can work to develop innovative strategies to control and prevent the spread of multidrug-resistant *Shigella* infections by collaborating with STD experts and engaging communities of high-risk groups, including men who have sex with men.



RESISTANCE SNAPSHOT

Among *Shigella*, emerging resistance to important drugs threatens available treatment options.



PERCENTAGE OF ALL *SHIGELLA**



ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INFECTIONS PER YEAR



ESTIMATED INFECTIONS PER 100,000 U.S. POPULATION

CIPROFLOXACIN RESISTANCE	6%	26,300	10
DECREASED SUSCEPTIBILITY TO CIPROFLOXACIN	17%	74,100	20
DECREASED SUSCEPTIBILITY TO AZITHROMYCIN (DSA)	14%	64,500	20
CIPROFLOXACIN RESISTANCE OR DSA	17%	77,000	20
CIPROFLOXACIN RESISTANCE AND DSA	3%	13,900	Less than 5

Antibiotic susceptibility helps describe how sensitive germs are to particular antibiotics. An antibiotic can stop the growth of or kill a susceptible germ.

*Average (2015–2017)

ONLINE RESOURCES

NARMSNow: Human Data, *Shigella*

www.cdc.gov/NARMSNow

About *Shigella*

www.cdc.gov/shigella