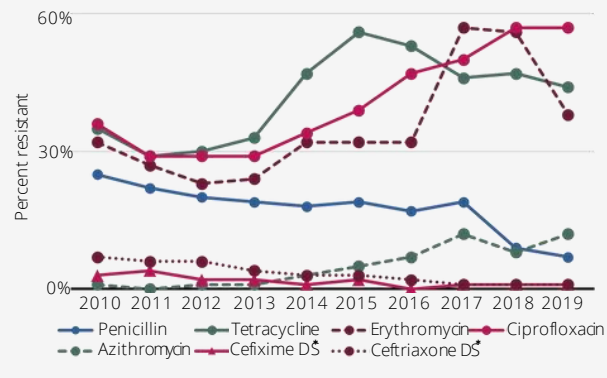


Enhanced surveillance of antimicrobial-resistant gonorrhea in Canada

ANTIMICROBIAL-RESISTANT GONORRHEA (AMR-GC) IS A **THREAT** TO PUBLIC HEALTH

Neisseria gonorrhoeae has acquired resistance or displayed decreased susceptibility to many antibiotics, leading to the possible emergence of untreatable gonorrhea in Canada¹

Figure 1. Trends of AMR-GC in Canada, 2010 to 2019¹



2nd Gonorrhea is the **second** most commonly reported sexually transmitted infection in Canada²

 Reported gonorrhea rates almost **tripled** in Canada from 2010 to 2019²

 **>35,000** gonorrhea cases reported in 2019²

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA DOING TO ADDRESS AMR-GC?

- The **National Microbiology Laboratory** supports provincial and territorial (PT) laboratories by providing AMR testing and analysis of gonorrhea isolates¹
- PHAC established the **Enhanced Surveillance of Antimicrobial-Resistant Gonorrhea (ESAG)** system, which uses linked PT-reported epidemiologic, gonorrhea treatment and gonorrhea culture data to improve the understanding of emerging AMR-GC trends in Canada³

 **Alberta, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and the Northwest Territories** participate in ESAG; recruitment of additional jurisdictions is ongoing

- **Monitoring** trends in AMR-GC helps **inform** targeted public health interventions for prevention, testing and treatment



AMR-GC SURVEILLANCE KNOWLEDGE GAPS

- **Cultures** allow for the detection and monitoring of **AMR-GC** trends
- In 2019, >80% of gonorrhea cases were diagnosed by nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs), for which there is no antimicrobial susceptibility data¹



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Detection

- Collect specimens, including cultures, as per national and local screening and treatment guidelines⁴



Surveillance

- Collect enhanced data such as risk factors and infection site
- Report AMR-GC to public health authorities, where appropriate



Treatment

- Treat according to national and local guidelines⁴

* DS - Decreased susceptibility

1. Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), National surveillance of antimicrobial susceptibilities of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* annual summary, 2019. 2. PHAC, Report on sexually transmitted infection surveillance in Canada, 2019.

3. PHAC, Report on the enhanced surveillance of antimicrobial-resistant gonorrhea - results from the 2014 pilot. 4. PHAC, Gonorrhea guide: treatment and follow-up, 2021.

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