

Fight Antimicrobial Resistance

The Valley Fever Institute at Kern Medical (VFI) is joining forces with the Partnership to Fight Infectious Disease (a group of patients, providers, community organizations, researchers, business and labor groups) for a day of action on May 18th to raise awareness of threats posed by antimicrobial resistant infections.

The COVID-19 crisis has reinforced the critical importance of treatments for infectious diseases; however, our supply of effective antibiotics is shrinking due to the growth of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). AMR is a threat to all of us, especially organ transplant recipients, those undergoing cancer treatment or major surgeries like joint replacements, preterm infants, immunocompromised patients and vulnerable patients with other chronic health conditions. **According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), today, more than 2.8 million drug-resistant infections occur in the U.S. each year and more than 35,000 people die as a result.**

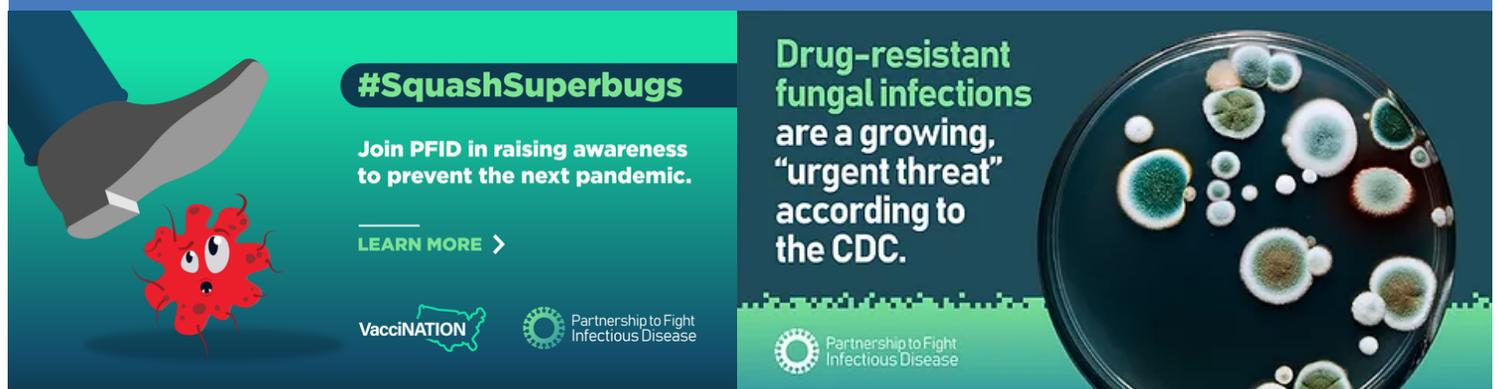
To support the development of new antimicrobial products, policy makers must create strong financial incentives for investing in new treatments paired with policies that address stewardship and surveillance, stabilize the current market through payment and reimbursement reforms, and address barriers that prevent patients from getting access to the appropriate medicines.

Infectious disease cases, including those of Valley Fever, continue to climb at a drastic rate. Valley Fever cases nationally have more than tripled in the last 10 years. Now more than ever the development of new antimicrobial drugs is paramount to help combat diseases like Valley Fever and mitigate the economic costs. An estimated \$1.5 Billion is spent annually to treat Valley Fever in California and Arizona alone. Without the development of new drugs these costs will continue to increase with the number of diagnosed cases.

Together we can raise awareness of Antimicrobial Resistance

How YOU can help!

- Make a short video, reel, boomerang or TikTok showing you *“squashing a bug”*
- Share the included tiles on your social media
- Use the hashtags **#SquashSuperbugs #ValleyFever**
- Encourage friends & colleagues to do the same
- *Ask your Congressional & Senate Representatives to co-sponsor and support the Forward and Pasteur Acts*



#SquashSuperbugs

Join PFID in raising awareness to prevent the next pandemic.

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Drug-resistant fungal infections are a growing, “urgent threat” according to the CDC.

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