

Antimicrobial resistance surveillance in the AFHSC-GEIS network

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Abstract

International infectious disease surveillance has been conducted by the United States (U.S.) Department of Defense (DoD) for many years and has been consolidated within the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center, Division of Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (AFHSC-GEIS) since 1998. This includes activities that monitor the presence of antimicrobial resistance among pathogens. AFHSC-GEIS partners work within DoD military treatment facilities and collaborate with host-nation civilian and military clinics, hospitals and university systems. The goals of these activities are to foster military force health protection and medical diplomacy. Surveillance activities include both community-acquired and health care-associated infections and have promoted the development of surveillance networks, centers of excellence and referral laboratories. Information technology applications have been utilized increasingly to aid in DoD-wide global surveillance for diseases significant to force health protection and global public health. This section documents the accomplishments and activities of the network through AFHSC-GEIS partners in 2009.

Introduction and background

The United States Department of Defense (DoD) has a long history of conducting infectious disease surveillance. In 1998, the DoD consolidated its infectious disease surveillance activities within the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center (AFHSC), Division of Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System (AFHSC-GEIS). The AFHSC-GEIS network is a global surveillance system that monitors the presence of antimicrobial resistance among pathogens. The network is composed of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and host-nation civilian and military clinics, hospitals and university systems. The goals of these activities are to foster military force health protection and medical diplomacy. Surveillance activities include both community-acquired and health care-associated infections and have promoted the development of surveillance networks, centers of excellence and referral laboratories. Information technology applications have been utilized increasingly to aid in DoD-wide global surveillance for diseases significant to force health protection and global public health. This section documents the accomplishments and activities of the network through AFHSC-GEIS partners in 2009.

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Drug resistance studies at Brook Army Medical Center

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Future direction and initiatives

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