

A Life Cut Short When Antibiotics Stopped Working



Most people don't even think twice when they get an infection. Much of the time, the best treatment is simple: fluids and rest. Bacterial infections can be treated with antibiotics – a quick course of pills, maybe a week or 10 days, and you're done.

But the rise of drug-resistant pathogens is changing that. These germs (viruses, bacteria, parasites, and fungi) have developed the ability to survive even the strongest of antimicrobial drugs. This phenomenon is known as antimicrobial resistance or AMR.

Drug-resistant infections just from bacteria play a role in close to [five million deaths](#) a year. That's five million people. One of those people was a promising, intelligent young woman named Mallory Smith. An honors student, athlete, and [writer](#), Mallory was just 25 when she died. She had cystic fibrosis, but what killed her was a superbug infection she had caught [when she was 12](#). This happened even after getting a lung transplant.

Now Mallory's mother, [Diane Shader Smith](#), is [telling her daughter's story](#) to the world. She wants people to know

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Listen as she tells One World, One Health about her daughter's struggles and about her own hopes for the future of humanity.

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One World, One Health

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Guest



Diane Shader Smith has had a vibrant career as a writer, speaker, publicist, and fundraiser. Since her daughter, Mallory Smith, died at age 25 from an antimicrobial-resistant infection secondary to her cystic fibrosis, Diane's work has centered around Mallory's posthumously published memoir, *Salt in My Soul*, which later was adapted into a documentary of the same name and a young adult book entitled *Diary of a Dying Girl*. Diane has traveled the world speaking about her daughter's writing and experiences, sharing insights about living with chronic illness, the patient experience, organ transplants, and antimicrobial-resistant infections.

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Credits

Hosted and written by Maggie Fox

Special guest: Diane Shader Smith

Produced and edited by Samantha Serrano

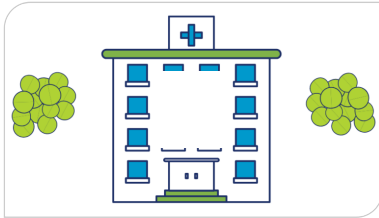
Music composed and sound edited by Raquel Krügel

Transcript edited by Namitha Prabhu

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