The Critical Need for New Antibiotics

In the U.S., there are not enough antibiotics in development to meet current and anticipated patient needs.

There are only 37 antibiotics in clinical development.

Historical data show that, generally, only 1 in 5 infectious disease drugs that enter Phase 1 trials will receive FDA approval.¹

Drugs can fail to receive approval for many reasons, including lack of effectiveness or safety concerns.

Antibiotics in Clinical Development With the Potential to Treat Infections Caused by Resistant Gram-Negative ESKAPE Pathogens

There is critical need for new therapies to treat deadly infections caused by Gram-negative ESKAPE pathogens—bacteria that are often resistant to available antibiotics. Only a handful of new treatments with the potential to address these serious threats are currently in development.³
The Pew Charitable Trusts is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today’s most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public, and invigorate civic life.