

THE MICROBIAL MENACE II

The Bugs Are Smarter Than We Are

In the past decade we have witnessed the return of particularly nasty infectious diseases such as MRSA, bird flu and swine flu. Severe conditions due to the spread of HIV/AIDS are rampant in parts of the world. More drug resistant bacteria are being discovered.

A combination of the weakening of vaccination regimens, poverty, poor sanitary conditions, improper use of antibiotics and the natural selection process has resulted in outbreaks of diseases believed to have been conquered which have produced new and particularly virulent strains.

- Multi-drug resistant E. coli has been found on beaches and in gulls in Portugal. (1)
- A deadly strain of drug-resistant Salmonella has recently appeared in Africa. It kills one in four children and vulnerable adults. (2)
- In the Puget Sound area MRSA has been found in sea water and in beach sand. (3)

Africa is riddled with disease, especially HIV/AIDS and parasitic worms which infect millions of people. Constant warfare, ignorance, poverty and wholesale rapine and rape in some areas spread microbial disease, and the world doesn't seem to care. Where is our conscience?

The taboo against mentioning circumcision is still very strong. After it was proven that circumcision prevents between 40% and 80% of HIV transmission, very little has been published.

In the past fifty years, comparatively little time and money has been spent on prevention and cure of disease. Most efforts have been made with respect to maintenance - the big money- maker. Under these conditions we can truly say that the bugs are smarter than we are.

(1) USA Today 9/12/09

(2) NY Times 11/30/09

(3) USA Today 9/12/09

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