

Use of the web by state and territorial health departments to promote dissemination of state antimicrobial resistance surveillance data, United States

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Background

Antimicrobial resistant (AMR) bacteria pose a serious threat to public health

Each year in the United States

- 2.8 million antibiotic-resistant infections;
- 35,000 deaths;
- \$20 billion surplus in direct healthcare costs;
- \$35 billion in loss of productivity (1)

One health

The national responses to AMR threat include calls for

- promoting judicious use of antibiotics in humans and animals;
- strengthening integrated One Health surveillance of AMR bacteria in humans, animals, and environment (2)

Study Objective

To understand the extent to which public health jurisdictions are disseminating surveillance findings to promote judicious use of antimicrobials through public health websites

Methods

Web Survey

- We used a standardized web audit tool to manually review and document the presence of AMR-related information on the websites of all public health jurisdictions (n=56) that participate in national notifiable disease surveillance in the United States.

Email Survey

- We also emailed a survey to representatives in the 54 jurisdictions that participate in the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) activities coordinated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- The survey asked respondents about AMR-related information on their public health department website.

Results

We received 37 non-duplicate responses (66% response rate):

Have information on appropriate antibiotic use for health professionals, veterinarians and general public, on their websites

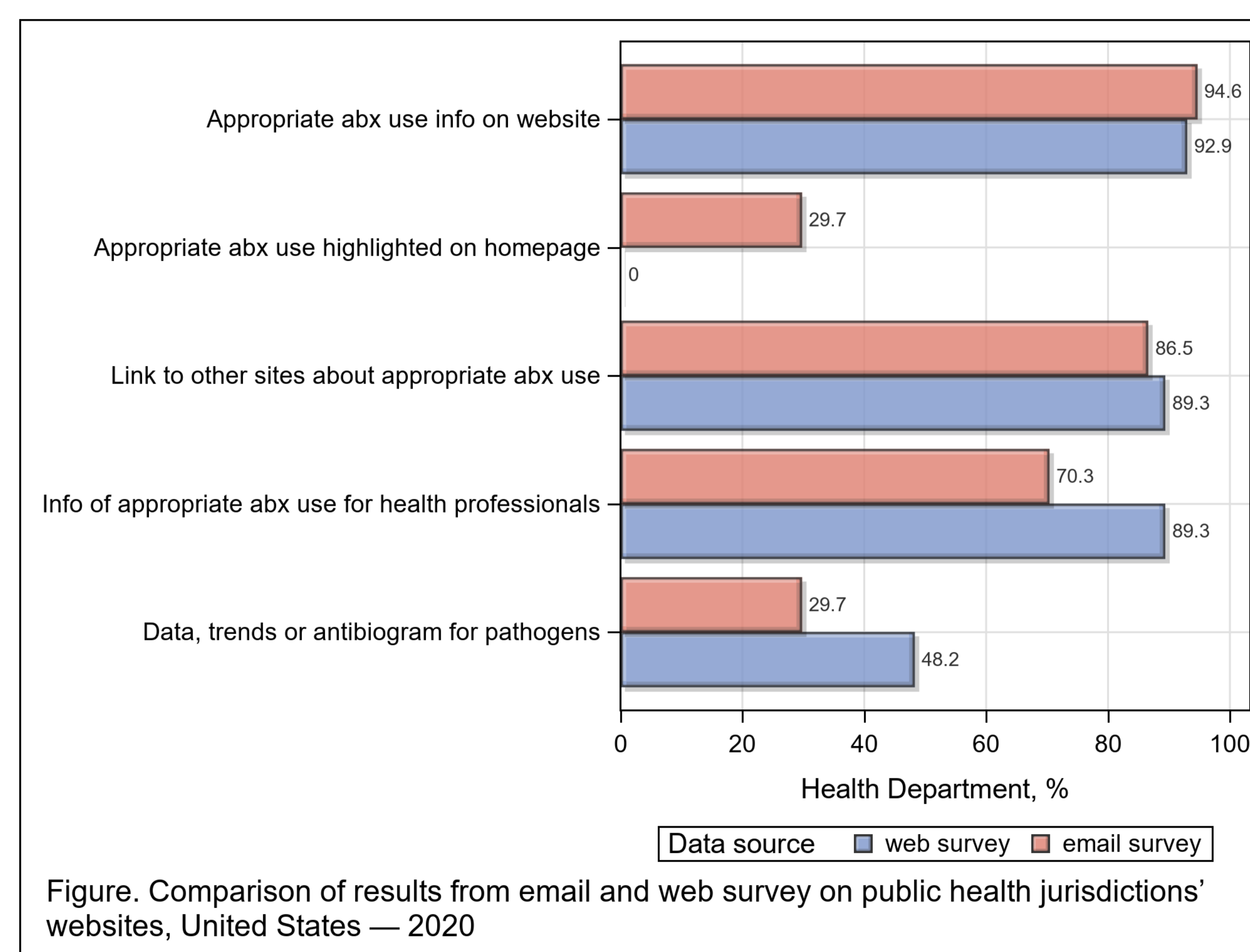
- 89.3% from the web survey
- 70.3% from the email survey

Have data on antimicrobial susceptibility for pathogens, or antibiograms, on their websites

- 48.2% from the web survey
- 29.7% from the email survey

Have highlighted appropriate antimicrobial use on the homepage of their websites

- 0% from the web survey
- 29.7% from the email survey



Conclusion

- Public health jurisdictions have begun to use websites to increase awareness about the threat of antimicrobial resistance.
- The limited presence of information on appropriate antimicrobial use for the public, health professionals and veterinarians suggest the need for improvement
- Gaps exist between the awareness of the epidemiologists and laboratorians and the information reported on public health jurisdictions' websites.
- Websites can be expanded and better leveraged to increase visibility of AMR and appropriate antimicrobial prescribing across One Health domains.

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