Bacterial STIs can be treated with antibiotics, and viral STIs can be treated with antiviral medication. Gonorrhea has developed resistance to all but one class of antibiotics. Resistant chlamydia and syphilis also exist but are less common. Some STIs are caused by bacteria, and others are caused by viruses. How AMR makes it harder to treat STIs: Antibiotic resistance makes STIs harder to treat. Common medications that used to work no longer do. As resistant strains of these infections spread, diseases like gonorrhea are becoming threats worldwide, according to the CDC and the World Health Organization. How to slow the spread of resistant STIs: Get tested to make sure you know if you have an STI — and get treated if you do. Only use antibiotics for STIs caused by bacteria, not viruses. If you have not been prescribed an antibiotic for a viral STI, ask your HCP for an explanation. If you’re not sure why you’re getting medication — even if you feel better or don’t notice symptoms — practice safe sex or abstain until you’re infected. Get retested if symptoms come back because reinfection is common.