

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2010

Senate Briefing: 11:30 a.m., 430 Dirksen

House Briefing: 2:00 p.m., 2359 Rayburn*

you are invited to attend a briefing on...

ANTIBIOTIC USE ON THE FARM AND PUBLIC HEALTH: A LOOMING CRISIS

sponsored by



The routine use of human antibiotics in the food and water of food animals results in antibiotic-resistant diseases in humans that are increasingly severe, cause extended hospital stays, and increase health care costs. Experts agree that antibiotic resistance has become a public health crisis that will only worsen if we don't act now. Panelists at this briefing will discuss the alarming increase in human antibiotic-resistant infections and review the state of the science linking this phenomenon to on-farm nontherapeutic antibiotic use. Specifically, they will discuss the presence of antibiotic-resistant foodborne pathogens on retail meat, and the emergence of a new strain of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) linked to hog production which poses risks to U.S. hog farmers, their communities, and the public at-large. The panel will also discuss the potential trade implications for U.S. farmers associated with antibiotic use.

Senate Honorary Host: Senator Tom Harkin

House Hosts: Reps. Louise Slaughter and Jan Schakowsky

AGENDA

- **WELCOME**
Margaret Mellon, Ph.D., J.D., moderator
Director, Food and Environment Program, Union of Concerned Scientists
- **UNTREATABLE INFECTIONS: A DANGEROUS TREND**
James Johnson, M.D.
Infectious Diseases, VA Medical Center - Minneapolis; Prof. of Medicine, University of Minnesota
- **DRUG RESISTANT BACTERIA AND FOOD SAFETY**
Lance Price, Ph.D.
Director, Ctr. for Metagenomics and Human Health, Translational Genomics Research Institute
- **MRSA ON THE FARM: AVOIDING A PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM**
Maryn McKenna
Journalist and author, *Superbug: The Fatal Menace of MRSA*
- **ANTIBIOTICS, BACTERIA, AND TRADE**
David Wallinga, M.D., M.P.A.
Director, Food and Health Program, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

TO RSVP, PLEASE EMAIL ASHLEY ELLES: AELLES@UCSUSA.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS EVENT CONTACT BRISE TENCER: BTENCER@UCSUSA.ORG, 202.223.6133

Refreshments will be provided

* Please note the room change