



# Public Policy Position on Antibiotic Resistance

**September 17, 2014**

WHEREAS, the spread of antibiotic resistant organisms is a serious local, national and global threat to public health; and

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) conservatively estimates that 2 million infections and 23,000 deaths are caused by antibiotic resistant organisms in the United States each year, with a substantial and increasing burden in children.

WHEREAS, human action such as inappropriate antibiotic use and overuse of antibiotics in food-producing animals accelerate the spread of antibiotic resistant organisms; and

WHEREAS, new resistance mechanisms continue to emerge and threaten our ability to treat common infectious disease; and

WHEREAS, the risk of bacterial infection is higher for infants and children and treatment options are more limited; and

WHEREAS, the majority of current research for novel pharmaceuticals against antibiotic resistant organisms is focused on adults; and

WHEREAS, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago recognizes antibiotic resistance as a core patient safety issue for children, therefore be it

RESOLVED: that Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago supports policy and program initiatives that promote appropriate antibiotic use in human medicine, eliminate routine use in food-producing animals, strengthen resistance tracking and monitoring, require transparency in antibiotic use practices, and support research and development of novel antibiotics.