

Antibiotic resistance biggest issue in developing world because of lack of regulation

By most standards, the increasing availability of life-saving antibiotics in the developing world is a good thing. But, around the globe, overuse of these drugs has created resistant strains of deadly bacteria — and they could be a greater threat in poorer nations than in richer ones, owing in part to a lack of regulation.

Up to 95% of adults in India and Pakistan carry bacteria that are resistant to β -lactam antibiotics — which include carbapenems, considered to be antibiotics of ‘last resort’ — according to research by Timothy Walsh, a medical microbiologist at Cardiff University, UK, that is due to be published in *The Lancet*. By comparison, only 10% of adults in the Queens area of New York carry such bacteria. The spread of resistance is “more than we could have imagined”, Walsh says.

Read the full, original story: [Antibiotic resistance sweeping developing world](#)