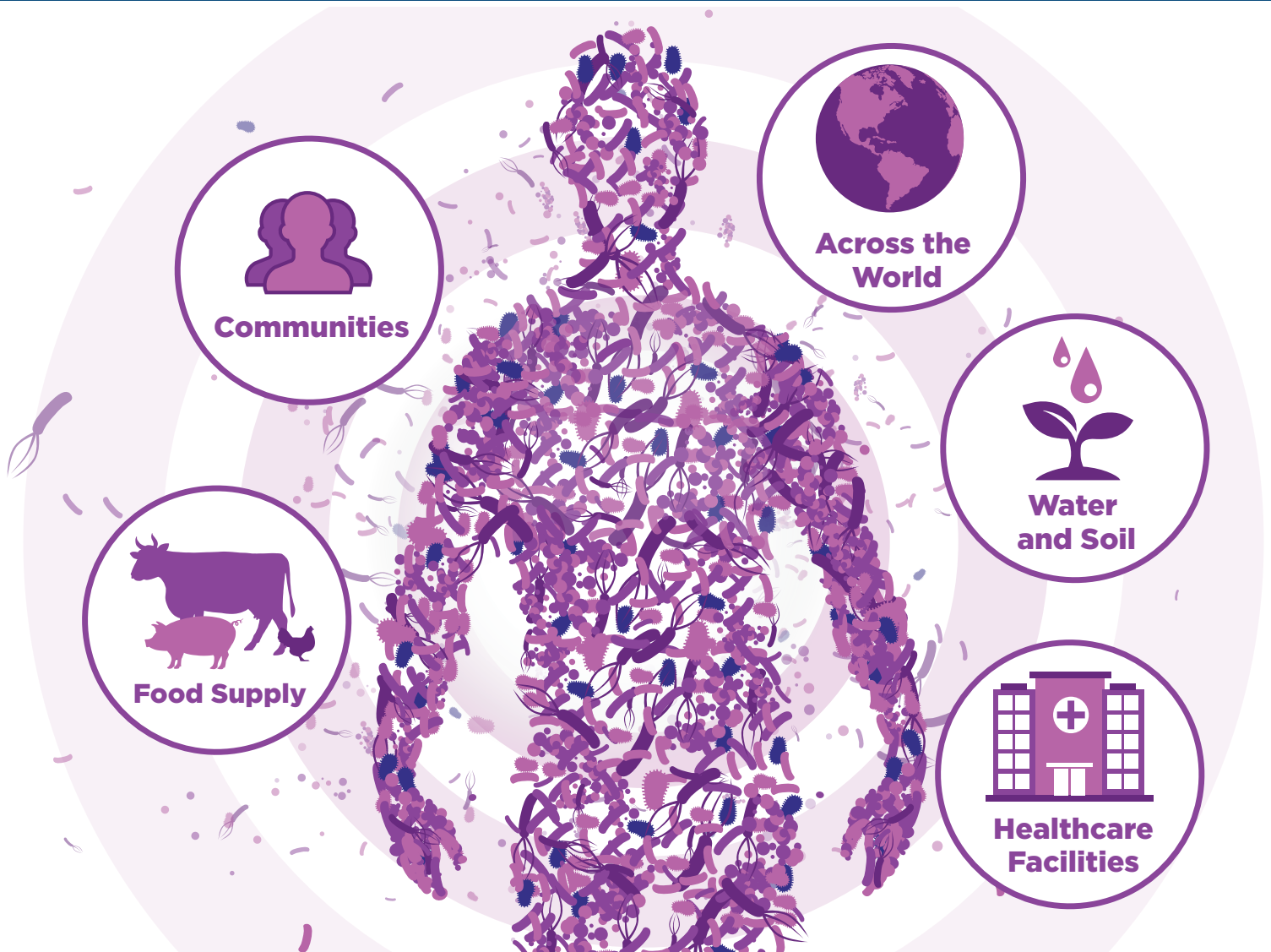


CDC Studies Microbial Ecology to Protect People from Infections



Scientists study:

microbial ecology—

The relationships between germ communities and people, animals, plants, the food supply, and more—to better understand how germs influence health, keep balanced microbiomes, and protect people from infection.

- Microbiomes are communities of germs on our skin or in our gut. A balanced microbiome helps us fend off infections.
- We use antibiotics, antifungals, and other therapeutics to kill harmful germs making us sick. However, at the same time, these drugs also kill the “good” germs that protect us.
- This disrupts a microbiome’s natural balance, increasing risk for infection, including antimicrobial-resistant infections.

More research is needed to better understand how to protect our microbiomes.

Learn more: <https://www.cdc.gov/DrugResistance/microbial-ecology.html>