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The Pan American Health Organization shares the growing concern of the scientific and medical community regarding antimicrobial resistance resulting from the overuse of antibiotics in both humans and animals. This book is a valuable contribution to the surveillance of resistance to antibiotics. It includes articles in two broad categories: the monitoring of bacterial resistance to antimicrobial drugs and the factors determining the use of antimicrobials. Within the wide range of materials in the publication are articles that address general subjects, such as choosing a method to monitor antimicrobial-resistant bacteria, and other pieces that deal with situations specific to various countries of the Americas.

This publication aims to increase awareness of the problem, to promote surveillance activities, and to find the best way to apply preventive measures, so that antibiotics are used judiciously with both humans and animals. The book is critical reading for official health entities in the Region of the Americas as well as for health professionals in both private and public practice.

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