

Meet the Superbugs

Klebsiella pneumoniae

Also called: *K. pneumo*

Say it: Kleb–see–ell–uh New-mo-nee-uh

About: Increasingly resistant to antibiotics, developing high resistance to the carbapenem class. Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) infections are very difficult to treat.^{1,3}

Shape: Rod²

Year identified: 1882²

Potential threats include:

Pneumonia, wound infections, sepsis, meningitis and urinary tract infections³

One way to help fight this Superbug: Keep hands clean—use 60% alcohol hand gel if soap and water are not available⁴

Resources: **1.** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). *Klebsiella pneumoniae* in Healthcare Settings. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/organisms/klebsiella/klebsiella.html> Last accessed August 2019. **2.** Ratajczak, Helen V. *Klebsiella*, Infection and Immunity. Encyclopedic Reference of Immunotoxicology. 2005 Edition. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1007/3-540-27806-0_859 Last accessed August 2019. **3.** Mandell, Douglas and Bennett's principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases, 7th edition, by Gerald L. Mandell, John E. Bennett, and Raphael Dolin, 2009 **4.** CDC.Handwashing: Clean Hands Save Lives. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/index.html> Last accessed August 2019.