

Combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

I am an XDR-TB survivor, which means most TB drugs did not work on me. Several years ago, I was doing my residency as a medical doctor when I became ill and was misdiagnosed as having normal TB. I was given the wrong medication for a very long time. It impacted me not only physically but also mentally. I was popping over 20 pills a day for over two and half years, including six months of daily injections. All these medications have terrible side effects, as they are very toxic. I developed jaundice, briefly lost my eyesight and hearing, developed thyroid disorders and lost the lower half of both of my lungs. After I recovered, I turned to advocacy to fight drug-resistant TB and to mandate drug susceptibility testing. I am a patient advocate and a resistance fighter. Because all of us need to be resistance fighters.

