



ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE WHERE HUMANS ENCOUNTER WILDLIFE

BOTSWANA

ECOTOURISM in Africa may be contributing to antibiotic resistance, according to researchers who found mongooses living in protected areas have higher resistance than those living near villages.

Human faecal contamination of the environment may be a source of exposure to resistant bacteria, with 57% of mongooses in a Botswana study having resistant *E. coli*, the researchers said.

At one ecotourism site, raw meat waste from commercially produced chickens was being fed to wild mongooses by kitchen staff.

Mongoose predators include birds, reptiles and domestic dogs.

“Wide-scale antibiotic resistance in wildlife... presents a critical threat to human and animal health,” the study authors said.

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