



Public Health  
England

# Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Toolkit for Public Engagement

Protecting and improving the nation's health



A toolkit designed to support you or  
your organisation in engaging with  
members  
of the public on AMR  
April 2017

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8. Public engagement activities
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10. Social Media Support

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on each page

<p><b>Key messages on AMR</b></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Health Matters: antimicrobial resistance</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>WHO: Antimicrobial Resistance</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>What is antibiotic resistance, and why should we care?</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Antibiotic Awareness Key Messages</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>NHS Choices- Antibiotics</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Health Matters: Antimicrobial Resistance</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>World Health Organisation: Causes of Antimicrobial Resistance</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>10 reasons why you should care about antibiotic resistance</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>7 more reasons why you should care about antibiotic resistance</u></a></p>
<p><b>Resources</b></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>UK 5 Year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy 2013-18</u></a>   <a href="#"><u>The Review on Antimicrobial Resistance</u></a></p>
<p><b>Infection prevention and control</b></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Your Role in Infection Prevention</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Washing hands helps to fight superbugs</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>NICE highlights how hand washing can save lives</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Flu Prevention</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>10 Winter Illnesses</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Diarrhoea and vomiting (gastroenteritis)</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Who should have the flu jab?</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>10 myths about flu and the flu vaccine</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Health matters: giving every child the best start in life</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Urinary tract infections in adults</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Dehydration prevention</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Breaking the Chain of Infection: Preventing Spread of Infection in Home and Everyday Life</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Beating E.coli- what are you doing to break the chain of infection?</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Antimicrobial Resistance: Resource Handbook</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>How to prepare and cook food safely</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>10 ways to prevent food poisoning</u></a></p>

Leaflets and posters	<a href="#">TARGET: Leaflets to Share with Patients</a> <a href="#">e-Bug: Managing Your Infection</a> <a href="#">Get Well Soon Without Antibiotics</a> <a href="#">No Amount of Antibiotics</a>
Antibiotic Guardian Campaign	<a href="#">Antibiotic Guardian</a> <a href="#">Antibiotic Awareness Resources: Posters and Leaflets</a> <a href="#">Healthcare Students: Antibiotic Guardian badge</a>
e-Bug	<a href="#">e-Bug</a> <a href="#">e-Bug lesson packs</a> <a href="#">Junior and Family Antibiotic Guardian</a>
Resources for animal keepers	<a href="#">Bella Moss Foundation</a> <a href="#">The Bella Moss Foundation- Survey for pet owners on antibiotic use</a> <a href="#">Bella Moss Foundation: Posters and Surveys for Your Practice</a> <a href="#">British Veterinary Association: Antimicrobials</a>
Public engagement activities	<a href="#">Healthwatch Torbay Science Café</a> <a href="#">Mums tums campaign targets overuse of antibiotics</a> <a href="#">Listen to Your Gut video</a> <a href="#">E-Bug: Beat the Bugs Course</a>
Frequently asked questions	<a href="http://www.who.int/features/qa/75/en/">http://www.who.int/features/qa/75/en/</a>  <a href="http://www.who.int/features/qa/75/en/">http://www.who.int/features/qa/75/en/</a> <a href="http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs194/en/">http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs194/en/</a>  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance</a>  <a href="http://www.who.int/features/qa/stopping-antibiotic-treatment/en/">http://www.who.int/features/qa/stopping-antibiotic-treatment/en/</a> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance</a>

# What is the purpose of this toolkit?

**The aim of this toolkit:** to provide Public Health England centres and voluntary organisations with a compilation of resources to improve public engagement on antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

**The toolkit contains:** key messages on AMR, frequently asked questions (FAQs), resources and examples of AMR related public engagement activities.

**Resources include:** posters, leaflets, quizzes and worksheets. Either written information or images are displayed on each of the slides, with a link to the website provided in the “**resources**” box on each of the slides. You can click on each of the links to access the resource.

**How you could use sections of the resource (depending on the audience) within your organisation:**

- Exhibit resources at public events
- Distribute to members of the public and organisations via e-mail, bulletins, newsletters
- Promote resources and key messages via social media i.e. on Facebook and Twitter
- Send resources to relevant groups i.e. e-Bug resources to young people’s organisations and children’s centres
- Distribute to GP Patient Participation Groups
- Display posters and leaflets in public libraries



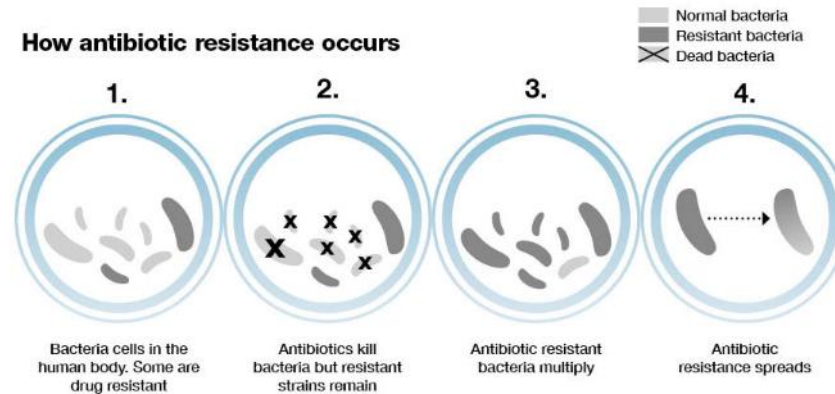
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# Key messages on AMR



# What is antibiotic resistance?



- Antimicrobial resistance happens when microorganisms (such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, and parasites) change when they are exposed to antimicrobial drugs (such as antibiotics, antifungals, antivirals, antimalarials, and anthelmintics). Microorganisms that develop antimicrobial resistance are sometimes referred to as “superbugs”.
- Antibiotic resistance refers specifically to the resistance to antibiotics that occurs in common bacteria that cause infections

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Health Matters: antimicrobial resistance](#)

[WHO: Antimicrobial Resistance](#)

[What is antibiotic resistance, and why should we care?](#)

# What do we need to know?

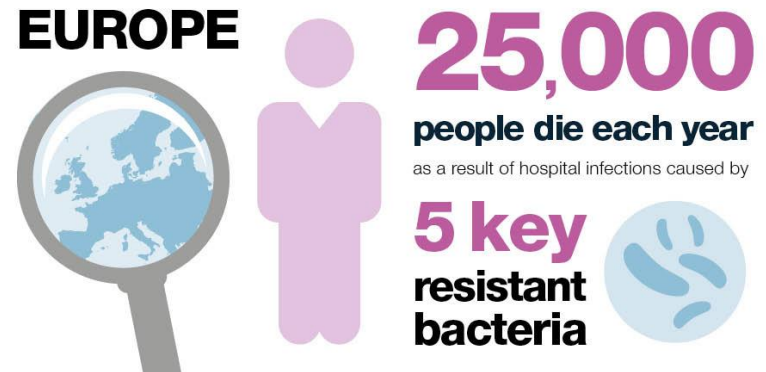
- Antibiotics are essential medicines for treating bacterial infections in both humans and animals.
- Antibiotics are losing their effectiveness at an increasing rate.
- Bacteria can adapt and find ways to survive the effects of an antibiotic. They become 'antibiotic resistant' so that the antibiotic no longer works. The more you use an antibiotic, the more bacteria become resistant to it.
- Antibiotics should be taken as prescribed, never saved for later or shared with others; it is important we use antibiotics in the right way, the right drug, at the right dose, at the right time for the right duration. Appropriate use of antibiotics will slow down the development of antibiotic resistance.
- There are very few new antibiotics in the development pipeline, which is why it is important we use our existing antibiotics wisely and make sure these life-saving medicines continue to stay effective for ourselves our children and grandchildren.
- Many antibiotics are prescribed and used for mild infections when they don't need to be. All colds and most coughs, sinusitis, otitis media (earache) and sore throats get better without antibiotics.
- Community pharmacists are well placed to help provide advice on over the counter medicines to treat symptoms and help with self-care.

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

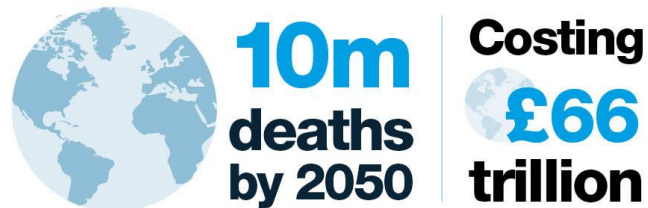
[Antibiotic Awareness Key Messages](#)  
[NHS Choices- Antibiotics](#)



# Impact of AMR nationally and locally



**GLOBAL** A failure to address the problem of  
antibiotic resistance could result in:



**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Health Matters: Antimicrobial Resistance](#)

There are a number of reasons why antibiotic resistance occurs

## CAUSES OF ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE



Over-prescribing  
of antibiotics



Patients not finishing  
their treatment



Over-use of antibiotics in  
livestock and fish farming



Poor infection control  
in hospitals and clinics



Lack of hygiene and poor  
sanitation



Lack of new antibiotics  
being developed

[www.who.int/drugresistance](http://www.who.int/drugresistance)


**#AntibioticResistance**



**Resource: click below to access the resource**

World Health Organisation: Causes of Antimicrobial Resistance

# Read the blog to find out more about why you should be worried about antibiotic resistance



## Blog

### Public health matters

Organisations: [Public Health England](#)

#### Public health matters

The official blog of Public Health England, providing expert insight on the organisation's work and all aspects of public health. [More about this blog.](#)

#### Categories


### 10 reasons YOU should be worried about antibiotic resistance

Diane Ashiru-Oredope, 18 November 2014 — [Antimicrobial resistance](#), [Health Protection](#), [Uncategorized](#)

Antibiotics are essential for treating many infections but they're losing their effectiveness. Bacteria are fighting back by adapting and finding ways of surviving the effects of our medicines.

#### 5. Cancer chemotherapy and effective antibiotics go hand in hand

Chemotherapy is an important weapon in the fight against cancer, but did you know the procedure destroys our white blood cells, which we need to fight off infection? Without antibiotics chemotherapy will become increasingly dangerous.



## 9. We have to save our surgery

None of us want to think about getting ill or having a serious operation but we all understand that surgery can save lives. But complex surgery brings with it the risk of infection. Take heart bypass operations or joint replacements for instance – if we don't have antibiotics these procedures designed to help people and ease suffering could actually lead to many more deaths caused by bacterial infections.



## Resource: click below to access the resource

- [10 reasons why you should care about antibiotic resistance](#)
- [7 more reasons why you should care about antibiotic resistance](#)

# Why do we need to educate different groups on AMR?

## Women



- Women are 27% more likely than men to receive an antibiotic in their lifetime
- The amount of antibiotics prescribed to women was 36% higher than prescribed for men in the 16 to 34 years age group and 40% greater in the 35 to 54 years age group
- Women consult their general practitioners more frequently than men
- Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are more common in women than in men

## Parents and Children







A significant number of prescriptions for antibiotics are obtained by parents for their children

In 2008, it was noted that in the UK, there are around 6 million antibiotic prescriptions for children each year

## The elderly



A higher use of antibiotics in the elderly population has been documented

<p><b>Cancer patients</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer treatments increase the risk of getting an infection, so antibiotics are an essential part of treating cancer patients.</li> <li>• Many cancer patients need antibiotics during all stages of their treatment (surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy)</li> </ul>
<p><b>People with cystic fibrosis</b></p> 	<p>People with cystic fibrosis are more likely to get chest infections, which can result in complications and even death. For this reason, antibiotics are an essential part of looking after cystic fibrosis patients</p>
<p><b>People with diabetes</b></p> 	<p>Diabetes can increase the risk of infection, so antibiotics are an essential part of caring for diabetes patients</p>
<p><b>People with urinary tract infections (UTIs)</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urinary tract infections can cause serious problems, so antibiotics are an essential part of treatment</li> <li>• If left untreated, UTIs can lead to complications such as blood poisoning and kidney failure</li> <li>• More and more bacteria that cause UTIs are resistant to the most commonly used “first-line” antibiotics. Infection by resistant bacteria can result in serious illness, leading to longer hospital stays and more complex treatments with more harmful side-effects</li> </ul>

### Black and Minority Ethnic communities



- History of travel (particularly to the Indian subcontinent) is correlated with a higher risk of colonisation with antibiotic-resistant bacteria
- There is some evidence that ethnic variation in diet could influence the risk of developing an antimicrobial-resistant infection

### Young people



Research has shown that a significant number of 15-24yr olds take antibiotics that are obtained without prescription (given to them by other people, previously unfinished courses, purchased abroad etc.)

### Pet owners



Antibiotics are vital to treat disease in animals as well as humans. Pets can also fall victim to antibiotic-resistant superbugs like MRSA, and for the same reasons (i.e. misuse and overuse of antibiotics)





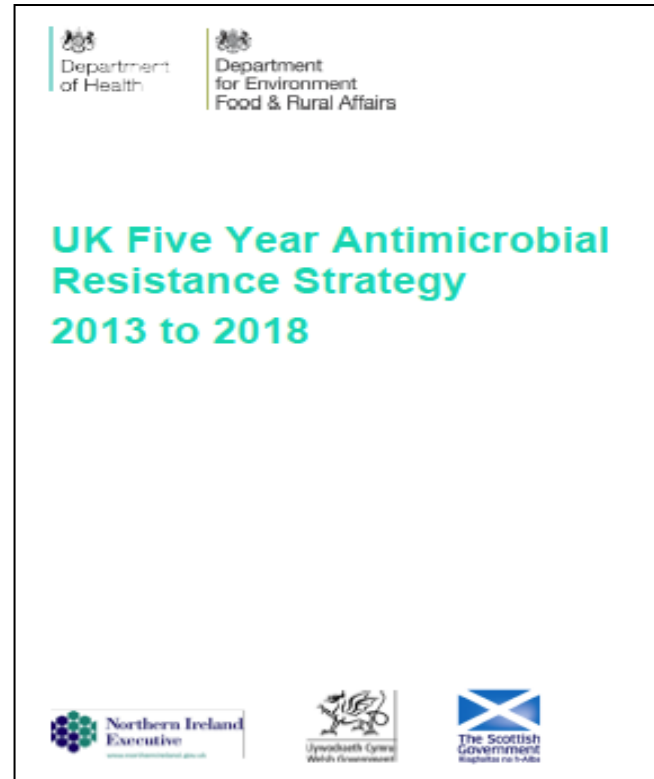
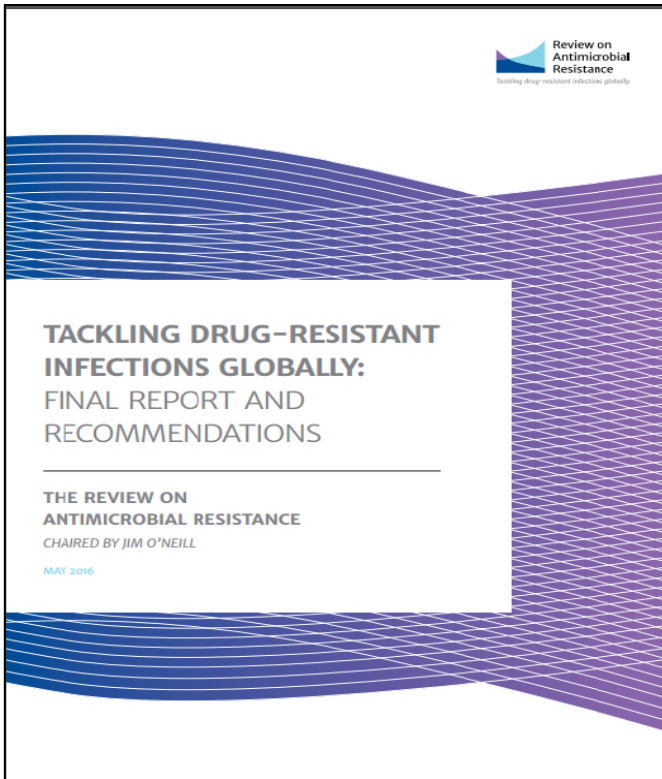
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# Resources



For further information on national and global efforts to tackle AMR,  
have a read of one of the reports below



**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[UK 5 Year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy 2013-18](#)

[The Review on Antimicrobial Resistance](#)





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# Infection prevention and control



# Did you know that you could prevent infections by taking some very simple steps?

**NHS** choices Your health, your choices

Health A-ZLive WellCare and support

## Washing hands helps to fight superbugs

Share: Save: Subscribe: Print:

Friday May 4 2012

A national hand hygiene campaign "cut superbug infections," according to BBC News. The BBC and other news outlets have reported the success of a hand-washing campaign in cutting infection rates in hospitals.

The headlines stem from a study of hand-washing practices at 187 NHS trusts in England and Wales between 2004 and 2008. The Clean Your Hands campaign was introduced in 2004 and this study looked at its effects.



**Levels of MRSA and C. difficile infections in hospitals have fallen**

*You play an important role in preventing infections by understanding hygiene at home and in your daily life.*

*Every infection prevented means less antibiotics are used lowering the risk of resistance developing.*

**NHS** choices Your health, your choices

Health A-ZLive WellCare and support

## NICE highlights how hand washing can save lives

Share: Save: Subscribe: Print:

Thursday April 17 2014

"Doctors and nurses should do more to stop hospital patients developing infections, an NHS watchdog says," BBC News reports.

The [National Institute for Health and Care Excellence \(NICE\)](#) has highlighted how basic hygiene protocols, such as hand washing, may be overlooked by some health professionals, which may threaten patient safety.



**Hand washing can help prevent the spread of infection**

Public / Patients

## Your Role in Infection Prevention

Your Role in Infection Prevention

Links to Patient Groups

### Infection Prevention, Patients and Public Role

Infection prevention and control is commonly described as everyone's responsibility. IPS members work across health and social care to make sure the right practices take place at the right time to keep patients, visitors and staff safe. As a patient or member of the public it's important to make sure you're aware of information that is available to you, in for example your local hospital, on the role you can play in infection prevention and control.

This information might cover the following important topics (note this list is not exhaustive):

#### Hand Hygiene

Hand hygiene at the right times is essential for safety – find out more about hand hygiene and the role you can play.

#### Visiting Hospital

Hospitals provide advice to the public on visiting during outbreaks and/or when you yourself may be suffering from certain infections – check your local hospital advice before visiting relatives or loved ones if you are at all unsure.

#### Admission to Hospital

Before going into hospital you may be provided with advice and information on infection control, you can ask your local hospital

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Your Role in Infection Prevention](#)

[Washing hands helps to fight superbugs](#)

[NICE highlights how hand washing can save lives](#)

# Stay Well All Year Round

**NHS** choices Your health, your choices

[Health A-Z](#) [Live Well](#) [Care and support](#)

## Flu - Prevention

[Overview](#) [Clinical trials](#)

[Seasonal flu](#) | [Symptoms](#) | [Treatment](#) | [Complications](#) | [Prevention](#)

### Preventing flu

There are three main ways of preventing flu: the flu vaccination, good hygiene (such as handwashing and cleaning) and antiviral medication.

#### The flu vaccine

The annual flu vaccine can help reduce your risk of getting flu each year, although it's not 100% effective because it doesn't work against every possible type of flu virus.

## 10 winter illnesses



Some health problems, such as asthma, sore throat and cold sores, are triggered or worsened by cold weather. Here's how to help your body deal with cold weather ailments.

### Colds

You can help prevent [colds](#) by washing your hands regularly. This destroys bugs that you may have picked up from touching surfaces used by other people, such as light switches and door handles.

Read this guide to how to [wash your hands properly](#).

## Good hygiene

To reduce your risk of getting flu or spreading it to other people, you should always:

- make sure you [wash your hands](#) regularly with soap and warm water
- clean surfaces such as your keyboard, telephone and door handles regularly to get rid of germs
- use tissues to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in a bin as soon as possible

Read more about [preventing the spread of germs](#).

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Flu Prevention](#)  
[10 Winter Illnesses](#)

# Learn how to protect yourself from gastroenteritis

**NHS choices** Your health, your choices

Health A-Z Live Well Care and support Health news

## Diarrhoea and vomiting (gastroenteritis)

Overview Clinical trials

Gastroenteritis

**Gastroenteritis is a very common condition that causes diarrhoea and vomiting. It's usually caused by a bacterial or viral tummy bug.**

It affects people of all ages, but is particularly common in young children.

Most cases in children are caused by a virus called rotavirus. Cases in adults are usually caused by [norovirus](#) (the "winter vomiting bug") or bacterial [food poisoning](#).

Gastroenteritis can be very unpleasant, but it usually clears up by itself within a week. You can normally look after yourself or your child at home until you're feeling better.

## What to do if you have gastroenteritis

If you experience sudden diarrhoea and vomiting, the best thing to do is stay at home until you're feeling better. There's not always a specific treatment, so you have to let the illness run its course.

You don't usually need to get medical advice, unless your symptoms don't improve or there's a risk of a more serious problem (see [When to get medical advice](#)).

To help ease your symptoms:

- **Drink plenty of fluids to avoid [dehydration](#)**—You need to drink more than usual to replace the fluids lost from vomiting and diarrhoea. Water is best, but you could also try fruit juice and soup.
- **Take [paracetamol](#) for any fever or aches and pains.**
- **Get plenty of rest.**
- **If you feel like eating, try small amounts of plain foods, such as soup, rice, pasta and bread.**
- **Use special rehydration drinks made from sachets bought from pharmacies** if you have [signs of dehydration](#), such as a [dry mouth](#) or dark urine – read about [treating dehydration](#).
- **Take anti-vomiting medication (such as metoclopramide) and/or antidiarrhoeal medication (such as loperamide) if you need to** – some types are available from pharmacies, but check the leaflet that

## Symptoms of gastroenteritis

The main symptoms of gastroenteritis are:

- sudden, watery [diarrhoea](#)
- feeling sick
- vomiting, which can be projectile
- a mild fever

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Diarrhoea and vomiting \(gastroenteritis\)](#)

# The importance of vaccinations

**NHS choices** Your health, your choices

Health A-Z   Live Well   Care and support

## 10 myths about flu and the flu vaccine



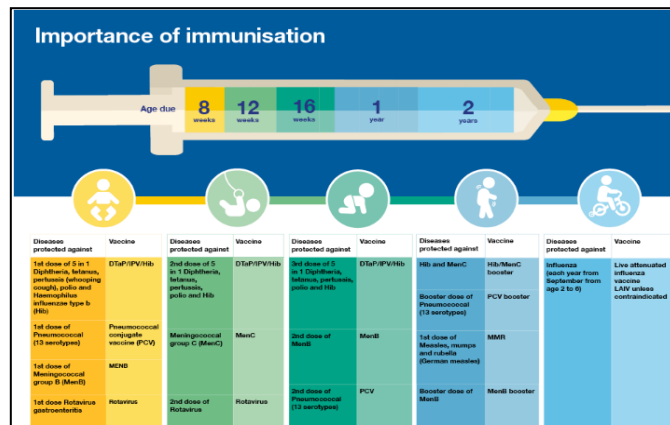
## Who should have the flu jab?

Flu is an unpredictable virus that can cause mild or unpleasant illness in most people. It can cause severe illness and even death among vulnerable older groups including older people, pregnant women and people with an underlying health condition.



Certain people are more likely to develop potentially serious [complications of flu](#), such as [bronchitis](#) and [pneumonia](#). These people are advised to have a flu jab each year.

For otherwise healthy people, flu can be very unpleasant. Most people will recover from flu within a week or two.



**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Who should have the flu jab?](#)

[10 myths about flu and the flu vaccine](#)

[Health matters: giving every child the best start in life](#)

# Find out more about how you can prevent Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs)

## Dehydration - Prevention

Overview

Clinical trials

[Introduction](#)

[Symptoms](#)

[Causes](#)

[Treatment](#)

[Prevention](#)

### Preventing dehydration

**You should drink plenty of fluids to avoid becoming dehydrated.**

Most of the time, you can prevent dehydration by drinking water regularly throughout the day. Be guided by your thirst, but be aware that in hot weather, when exercising and during illness, you should drink more.

Mild dehydration can be relieved by drinking more water and diluted fruit squash. If necessary, you can purchase oral rehydration solutions (ORS) from a pharmacy. As a guide, passing pale or clear-coloured urine (wee) is a good sign that you're well hydrated.

## Preventing UTIs

If you get UTIs frequently, there are some things you can try that may stop it coming back. However, it's not clear how effective most of these measures are.

These measures include:

- avoiding perfumed bubble bath, soap or talcum powder around your genitals – use plain, unperfumed varieties, and have a shower rather than a bath
- going to the toilet as soon as you need to pee and always emptying your bladder fully
- staying well hydrated
- wiping your bottom from front to back when you go to the toilet
- emptying your bladder as soon as possible after having sex
- not using a contraceptive diaphragm or condoms with spermicidal lubricant on them – you may wish to use another method of contraception instead
- wearing underwear made from cotton, rather than synthetic material such as nylon, and avoiding tight jeans and trousers

## Urinary tract infections in adults

Overview

Clinical trials

Urinary tract infections in adults

**Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are common infections that can affect the bladder, the kidneys and the tubes connected to them.**

Anyone can get them, but they're particularly common in women. Some women experience them regularly (called recurrent UTIs).

UTIs can be painful and uncomfortable, but usually pass within a few days and can be easily treated with [antibiotics](#).

This page is about UTIs in adults. There is a separate article about [UTIs in children](#).

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Urinary tract infections in adults](#)

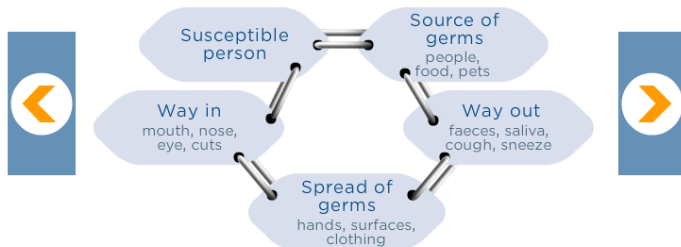
[Dehydration prevention](#)

# Did you know that an infection can be prevented simply by breaking up one of the links?

## Breaking the Chain of Infection

### The chain of infection

Click to learn more about each link in the chain of infection.



If you remove one link in the chain then spread of infection can't happen.



## Breaking the Chain of Infection

### Getting smarter about hygiene

To get smarter about hygiene, however, we must first understand the basics about how infections are spread. The aim of this simple resource is to help you to visualise how infections are spread and how hygiene helps to break the chain of infection.



**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Breaking the Chain of Infection: Preventing Spread of Infection in Home and Everyday Life](#)

[Beating E.coli- what are you doing to break the chain of infection?](#)

[Antimicrobial Resistance: Resource Handbook](#)



# Preventing infections with food hygiene

## How to prepare and cook food safely



Studies show that the kitchen contains the most germs in the home. One study found that the kitchen sink contains 100,000 times more germs than the bathroom.

## Washing hands

Our hands are one of the main ways that germs are spread, so it's important to wash them thoroughly with soap and warm water before cooking, after touching the bin, going to the toilet, and before and after touching raw food.

**NHS** choices Your health, your choices

Health A-Z

Live Well

Care and support

## 10 ways to prevent food poisoning



**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[How to prepare and cook food safely](#)  
[10 ways to prevent food poisoning](#)





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# Leaflets and posters

There are a number of leaflets available for healthcare professionals to share with patients in order to improve their confidence to self care



Royal College of  
General Practitioners



TARGET

[Home](#) » [Clinical](#) » [Toolkits](#) » TARGET Antibiotics Toolkit

## TARGET Antibiotics Toolkit

The table below is an excerpt of the TARGET Antibiotic Toolkit "Guide to treat your infection" and shows you how long these common illnesses normally last, what you can do to ease your symptoms and when you should go back to your GP or contact NHS Direct

Your infection	Usually lasts	How to treat yourself better for these infections, now and next time	When should you get help: Contact your GP practice or contact NHS 111 (England), NHS 24 (Scotland dial 111), or NHS Direct (Wales dial 0845 4647)
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle-ear infection	4 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have plenty of rest.</li> </ul>	<b>1. to 8. are possible signs of serious illness and should be assessed urgently. Phone for advice if you are not sure how urgent the symptoms are.</b> 1. If you develop a severe headache and are sick. 2. If your skin is very cold or has a strange colour, or you develop an unusual rash. 3. If you feel confused or have slurred speech or are very drowsy. 4. If you have difficulty breathing. Signs can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>breathing quickly</li> <li>turning blue around the lips and the skin below the mouth</li> <li>skin between or above the ribs getting sucked or pulled in with every breath.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat	7 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drink enough fluids to avoid feeling thirsty.</li> </ul>	5. If you develop chest pain.
<input type="checkbox"/> Common cold	10 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask your local pharmacist to recommend medicines to help your symptoms or pain (or both).</li> </ul>	6. If you have difficulty swallowing or are drooling.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sinusitis	18 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever is a sign the body is fighting the infection and usually gets better by itself in most cases. You can use paracetamol (or ibuprofen) if you or your child is uncomfortable as a result of a fever.</li> </ul>	7. If you cough up blood.
<input type="checkbox"/> Cough or bronchitis	21 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other things you can do suggested by GP or nurse.</li> </ul>	8. If you are feeling a lot worse
<input type="checkbox"/> Other infection: ..... days	..... days	.....	<b>Less serious signs that can usually wait until the next available GP appointment</b> 9. If you are not improving by the time given in the 'Usually lasts' column. 10. In children with middle-ear infection: if fluid is coming out of their ears or if they have new deafness. 11. Other .....

These could be shared to improve people's knowledge and understanding of the duration of symptoms, as well when to visit the GP

Available in:

Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese, French, Greek, Gujarati, Hindi, Hungarian, Mandarin, Polish, Romanian, Somali, Spanish, Turkish, Urdu, Welsh

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[TARGET: Leaflets to Share with Patients](#)

# Managing your infection

A step by step guide  
on how to manage  
your infection



## Self-care steps

Step 1: How to help make yourself better

Step 2: Check how long your symptoms last

Step 3: Look out for serious symptoms

Step 4: Where to get help



## Step 2: Check how long your symptoms last

**Ear Ache**

**An ear ache usually lasts 4 days**

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Sore Throat**

**A sore throat usually lasts 7 days**

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Cold**

**A cold usually lasts 10 days**

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**Cough**

**A cough usually lasts 21 days**

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

If you are not starting to improve a little by the time given above then seek advice from your GP practice.

If you are feeling a lot worse phone  
**NHS 111, NHS Direct Wales or NHS 24.**

## Step 1: How to help make yourself better

Whatever your infection, you can do the following to help:

Paracetamol can be taken to help reduce a fever. Always follow instructions.

Ask your pharmacist for advice on reducing your symptoms.

Get plenty of rest until you feel better.

Drink enough fluids to avoid feeling thirsty.

Use tissues when you sneeze to help stop infections spreading.

Wash hands to help stop infections spreading.

For more information visit the NHS Choices website: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

Most common infections get better without antibiotics. Find out how you can make better use of antibiotics by visiting and pledging at: [www.antibioticguardian.com](http://www.antibioticguardian.com)

## Step 3: Look out for serious symptoms

If you have an infection and develop any of the below symptoms then you should be **assessed urgently by a doctor**. Ring your GP practice or call **NHS 111, NHS Direct Wales or NHS 24**.

Severe headache

Skin is very cold

Trouble breathing

Feel confused

Chest pain

Problems swallowing

Coughing blood

Feeling a lot worse

## Step 4: Where to get help

**NHS England**

when it's less urgent than 999

**NHS Direct Wales**

**NHS Direct Wales**  
**0845 46 47**  
**Galw IEGHYD Cymru**

**NHS Scotland**

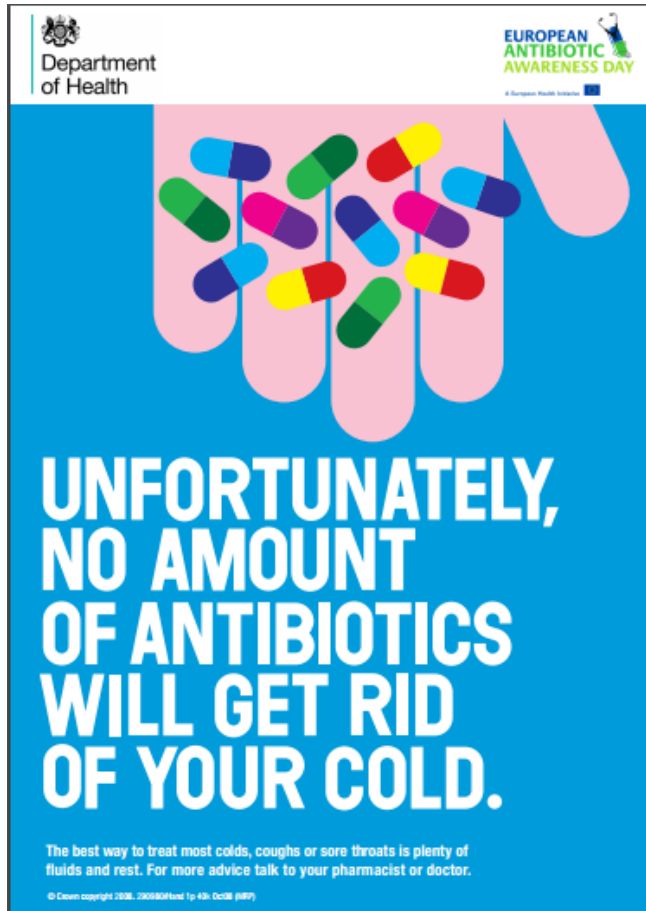
Call us from 011

## Emergency

If you have an emergency call **999** immediately.

**Resource: click below  
to access the resource**  
**e-Bug: Managing Your  
Infection**

Why not spread the word by displaying these posters and sending them to your networks?



Available in:

Arabic, Bengali,  
Simplified Chinese,  
Hindi, Polish,  
Portuguese, Punjabi,  
Slovak, Somali, Urdu



**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Get Well Soon Without Antibiotics](#)

[No Amount of Antibiotics](#)



Public Health  
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EUROPEAN  
ANTIBIOTIC  
AWARENESS DAY



A European Health Initiative

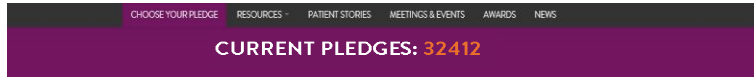


ANTIBIOTIC  
**GUARDIAN**  
UK SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS DAY

Protecting and improving the nation's health

# Antibiotic Guardian campaign

# Have you signed up to become an Antibiotic Guardian?



## Antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest threats facing us today.

**Why it is relevant to you:** without effective antibiotics many routine treatments will become increasingly dangerous. Setting broken bones, basic operations, even chemotherapy and animal health all rely on access to antibiotics that work.

**What we want you to do:** To slow resistance we need to cut the unnecessary use of antibiotics. We invite the public, students and educators, farmers, the veterinary and medical communities and professional organisations, to become Antibiotic Guardians.

**Call to action:** Choose one simple pledge about how you'll make better use of antibiotics and help save these vital medicines from becoming obsolete.

Antibiotic Guardian supports the UK Antimicrobial Resistance strategy, European Antibiotic Awareness Day (18 November) and World Antibiotic Awareness Week (16-22 November).

The campaign calls on everyone in the UK to become Antibiotic Guardians by simply choosing a pledge. Evaluation of the campaign has shown that it is effective for changing behaviour and increasing knowledge (self reported)

## How many people can you sign up to become an Antibiotic Guardian?

The image shows a screenshot of the Antibiotic Guardian pledge selection form. It has three main sections: 'HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL OR LEADER' (purple), 'MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC' (orange), and 'STUDENT OR EDUCATOR' (purple). Each section has a dropdown menu labeled 'Select from the list below'. The 'HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL OR LEADER' dropdown is open, showing a list of roles: Antimicrobial/Infection Prevention and Control Specialists, Dentists, Executives/Management/Government/Commissioners/Public Health, UK & International organisations, Midwives, Nurses, Other HCPs (eg Podiatrists, chiropractors, radiographers, therapists, social workers, non-medical), Pharmacy Teams, Primary Care Prescribers, Secondary Care Prescribers, and Veterinary & Nurses Teams. Below the dropdowns is a section titled 'SELECT A PLEDGE MESSAGE' with the text 'Messages will display below'.

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Antibiotic Guardian](#)





Once you have printed out your Antibiotic Guardian certificate after signing up, you can print it and display it in a place of your choice

You can also display posters at your workplace or in the community to promote the campaign

# EUROPEAN ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS DAY

18 NOVEMBER

ANTIBIOTIC GUARDIAN AND EAAD ARE SUPPORTED BY:

Insert organisation logo here.



ANTIBIOTIC GUARDIAN

UK SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS DAY




EUROPEAN ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS DAY

A European Health Initiative 

CHOOSE A PLEDGE AND JOIN THE ANTIBIOTIC GUARDIANS. RALLY TOGETHER AT [ANTIBIOTICGUARDIAN.COM](https://antibioticguardian.com)


# EUROPEAN ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS DAY

18 NOVEMBER



ANTIBIOTIC GUARDIAN

UK SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS DAY

Developed by  Public Health England

**What is antibiotic resistance?**

- when bacteria adapt and develop a way to protect themselves from being killed by antibiotics
- bacteria are more likely to develop resistance when antibiotics are overused or not used as prescribed

**Why is it a problem?**

- infections caused by antibiotic resistant bacteria are more difficult to treat leading to increased levels of disease and death and longer hospital stays
- operations like bone, heart or bowel surgery, and treatments like chemotherapy all require antibiotics to be successful; if our antibiotics do not work these procedures will become impossible without risk of infection

**What can I do?**


- become an Antibiotic Guardian by choosing a pledge to undertake a simple action that can help prevent the development and spread of antibiotic resistance

YOUR ACTIONS PROTECT ANTIBIOTICS, RALLY TOGETHER AT [ANTIBIOTICGUARDIAN.COM](https://antibioticguardian.com)

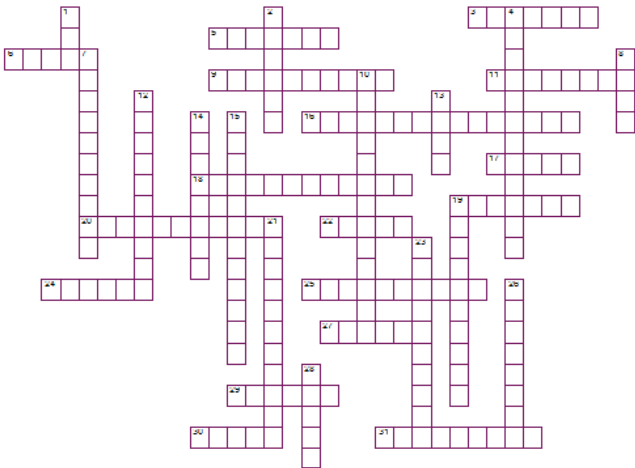
**Resource: click below to access the resource**  
Antibiotic Awareness Resources: Posters and Leaflets



# You can test your antibiotics knowledge by completing a crossword or a quiz



## Antibiotic Guardian Challenge Crossword



**Across**

3 Vetennanans may prescne antibiotics to these (7)

5 Antibiotics will most commonly be given to adults in these forms (7)

8 This type infectious agent will cause the common cold, coughs and the flu (5)

9 Medicine used to help treat fungal infections (10)

11/ As an Antibiotic \_11\_, my actions help \_19\_ antibiotics for the children of tomorrow (8,7)

16 The main immune system cells for defending against bacterial infections (3 words: 5,5,5)

17 Antibiotics will most commonly be given to children in this form (5)

18 You require one of these for antibiotics (12)

20 These medicines should be used as prescribed and only when needed for bacterial infections (11)

22 Main professional group that administer and may prescribe antibiotics (6)

**Down**

1 You can get a vaccination jab against this viral seasonal illness (3)

2 When you have a viral illness you should consume lots of this (6)

4 Your body's natural defence system against infections (2 words: 6,6)

7 A common symptom of coughs, colds and flus (2 words: 4,6)

8 Runs from your nose, especially when sick with a viral infection (4)

10 This term covers antibiotics, antivirals and antihungals (13)


12 When you are ill and can make others ill with the same bug you are \_ (10)

13 A viral infection that causes sore throat and runny nose (4)

14 When you have a cough, cold or flu you should ask your pharmacist how to treat your \_ (8)

16 Professional who may prescribe antibiotics for animals (12)

19 \_ the best antibiotic discovered (10)



## The Antibiotic Guardian Quiz

Winter is coming...

1. Antibiotics are not effective against coughs, colds, flu and most sore throats...
  - A. since these are mostly caused by viruses, which antibiotics do not work against
  - B. but antibiotics sometimes work against viruses, so I should take them just in case
  - C. however antibiotics work against everything
2. When I have a cough, cold or sore throat, I should...
  - A. book an appointment with my GP for all mild symptoms or illness
  - B. seek immediate emergency medical attention
  - C. check with a pharmacist about how to treat my symptoms
3. There are lots of colds going around. I've been told taking antibiotics 'just in case' can drive up the number of drug-resistant infections, but...
  - A. taking antibiotics when you don't need to allows bacteria to develop a resistance to the antibiotic
  - B. only older people can get drug-resistant infections
  - C. taking antibiotics will help build up your defences and stop you getting a cold in the first place
4. My GP has only given me a short prescription of antibiotics but I think I need them for longer. I should...
  - A. use some of my friends antibiotics as they didn't use all the ones they were given last year
  - B. take one less a day than prescribed, to make them last longer
  - C. take the antibiotics exactly as prescribed – or they may not clear the infection
5. Drug-resistant infections, also known as antibiotic resistant infections are serious because...
  - A. antibiotics may not work against resistant bacteria
  - B. without effective antibiotics many routine treatments or operations like chemotherapy, surgery and Caesarean sections will become increasingly dangerous or impossible
  - C. overuse of antibiotics means that antibiotic resistance will spread faster and faster
  - D. drug-resistant infections affect both humans and animals

**Resource: click below to access the resource**  
 Antibiotic Awareness Resources: Quizzes and Crosswords

# Resources for University Healthcare Students



Healthcare Students – Antibiotic Guardian Champion Badge

## Become an Antibiotic Guardian Champion



As part of UK's activities for World Antibiotic Awareness Week (WAAW) (14 – 20 November 2016) and European Antibiotic Awareness Day (18 November) we are inviting healthcare students and pre-registration professionals to become Antibiotic Guardian Champions. Earn your badge by completing the tasks via [Open Badge Academy](#) and [sharing your evidence](#). You can add your badge to your LinkedIn account.

We also encourage you to share actively via social media using [#AntibioticGuardian](#)

University healthcare and pre-registration students can now earn virtual badges to add to their LinkedIn accounts

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Healthcare Students: Antibiotic Guardian badge](#)

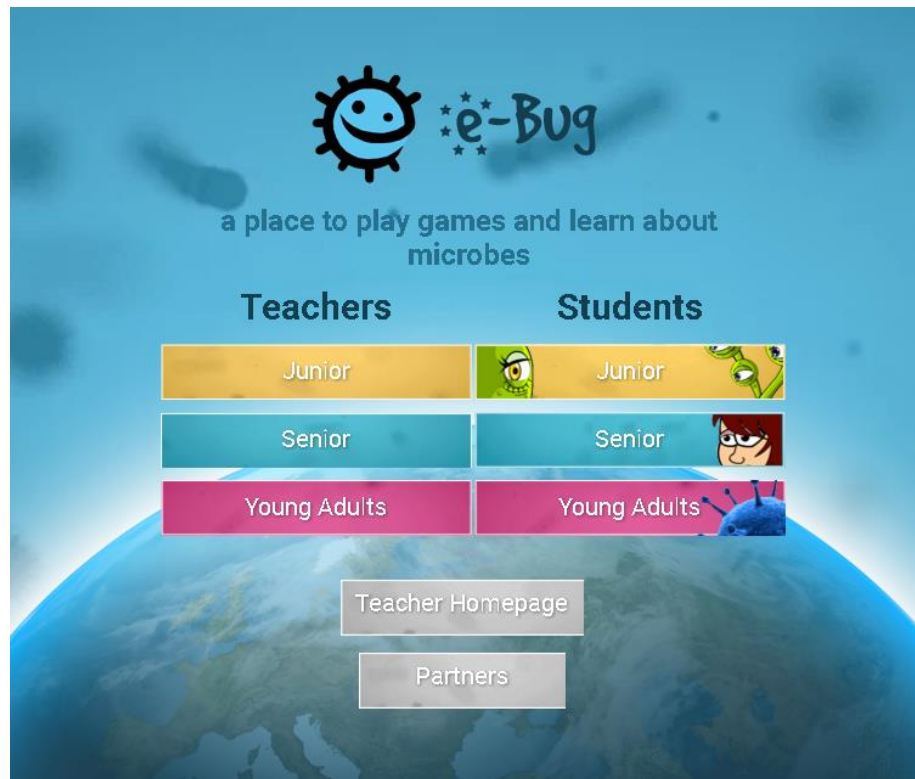


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# e-Bug





The e-Bug website contains a number of games and activities that children can complete to improve their knowledge on antibiotics and preventing infections. e-Bug also has resources for teachers to use in classrooms



**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[e-Bug](#)

[e-Bug lesson packs](#)

Junior pre and post questionnaires: to give to children before and after teaching them about AMR using the lesson packs

Questionnaire 1

Student Name: First name..... Surname.....

Class .....

*Tick whether you think each statement is true, false or don't know*

		True	False	Don't Know
<b>Microbe Mania</b>	All microbes are bad/harmful			
	Bacteria and Viruses are the same thing			
	Bread Mould is a type of microbe			
	All microbes are the same size			
	Microbes only live in dirty places			
<b>Horrid Hands</b>	Washing hands with soap <b>and</b> water removes more microbes than water alone			
	Washing hands can prevent the spread of disease			
	Microbes can spread onto your hand by just touching something			
	Washing your hands in cold water is just as good as washing in warm water			
<b>Super Sneezes</b>	All sneezes contain microbes			
	Microbes in a sneeze can travel the length of a bus			
	Catching a sneeze with a tissue will stop the spread of microbes			
	There is no need to wash your hands after sneezing into them because microbes don't live very long outside of the body			
<b>Kitchen Mayhem</b>	There can be harmful microbes on raw food			
	Meat is the only raw food to carry harmful microbes			
	Cooking food quickly is the best way to destroy harmful microbes			
	You only need to clean kitchen surfaces when they look dirty			
	Meat and vegetables should be cut on different chopping boards			
<b>Antibiotics</b>	Antibiotics:	kill bacteria		
		kill viruses		
	The flu is caused by bacteria			
	Most coughs and colds get better without antibiotics			
	Bacteria are becoming resistant to antibiotics			
	You should keep any leftover antibiotics to treat infections in the future			
	Antibiotics also kill our good bacteria			

School.....



Operated under  
Public Health  
England







## Questionnaire 1



Operated by Public Health England



Forest of Dean  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Student name: First name:..... Surname:.....

Class:.....

Please tick **ONE** answer for each question

<b>Microbe Mania</b>	<b>The smallest microbe is a:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Bacteria <input type="checkbox"/> Virus <input type="checkbox"/> Fungi	<b>Most microbes can be seen:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Only with a microscope <input type="checkbox"/> With the naked eye <input type="checkbox"/> With a magnifying glass <input type="checkbox"/> Never, they are invisible
	<b>Microbes:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> They are all the same size <input type="checkbox"/> Are all bad/harmful <input type="checkbox"/> Are all useful <input type="checkbox"/> Can be useful or harmful <input type="checkbox"/> Have no effect on the human body	<b>Flu is caused by:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> A bacteria <input type="checkbox"/> A virus <input type="checkbox"/> A fungi <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above
<b>Horrid Hands</b>	<b>The best way to remove microbes is to:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Wash hands with warm water <input type="checkbox"/> Wash hands with warm running water <input type="checkbox"/> Wash hands with cold water <input type="checkbox"/> It doesn't matter which	<b>You need to wash your hands:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> To get rid of good microbes <input type="checkbox"/> After a bath <input type="checkbox"/> Before asking a question in class <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above
	<b>We pick up microbes on our hands from:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Objects that we touch <input type="checkbox"/> Surfaces that we touch <input type="checkbox"/> Other people <input type="checkbox"/> All of the above	<b>Microbes are found:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In the air <input type="checkbox"/> On our hands <input type="checkbox"/> On the floor <input type="checkbox"/> Everywhere
<b>Super Sneezes</b>	<b>Sneezes contain:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Snot <input type="checkbox"/> Harmful microbes <input type="checkbox"/> Useful microbes <input type="checkbox"/> All of the above	<b>The best way to stop microbes spreading is:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> To use your hand to cover your sneeze <input type="checkbox"/> To use a tissue to cover your sneeze <input type="checkbox"/> To take antibiotics <input type="checkbox"/> To drink plenty of fluids
	<b>Sneezes can travel:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Only as far as our hands <input type="checkbox"/> To the person next to us <input type="checkbox"/> The length of a bus <input type="checkbox"/> The length of a football field	<b>After we sneeze into our hands, we should:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Wash our hands <input type="checkbox"/> Dry our hands on our clothes <input type="checkbox"/> Take antibiotics <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above is necessary
<b>Kitchen Mayhem</b>	<b>Harmful microbes can be found on:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Raw meat <input type="checkbox"/> Raw fish <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit and vegetables <input type="checkbox"/> All of the above	<b>Meat and vegetables should be:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Stored on the same shelf in the fridge <input type="checkbox"/> Cut on different chopping boards <input type="checkbox"/> Cut with the same knife <input type="checkbox"/> Stored in a warm cupboard
	<b>The best way to destroy harmful microbes on food is to:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cook food thoroughly <input type="checkbox"/> Cook food as quickly as possible <input type="checkbox"/> To make sure food is cooked on the outside <input type="checkbox"/> To make sure food is warm before we eat it	<b>Yeast is used to make bread. Yeast is a:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Bacteria <input type="checkbox"/> Virus <input type="checkbox"/> Fungi <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above
<b>Antibiotics</b>	<b>Antibiotics kill:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Bacteria <input type="checkbox"/> Viruses <input type="checkbox"/> Fungi <input type="checkbox"/> All of the above	<b>Bacterial resistance is caused by:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> The overuse of antibiotics <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative medicines <input type="checkbox"/> Vaccinations
	<b>To treat coughs and colds we should:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Rest and take fluids <input type="checkbox"/> Take antibiotics <input type="checkbox"/> Have the flu vaccination <input type="checkbox"/> Go to the hospital	<b>When taking antibiotics you should:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Stop when you feel better <input type="checkbox"/> Save some for the next time you are ill <input type="checkbox"/> Take the full course <input type="checkbox"/> Share them with your friends

Senior pre and post questionnaires: to give to older children before and after teaching them about AMR using the lesson packs

# Junior and Family Antibiotic Guardian

**makewaves** Join Badges Teacher Help Search Login



### Junior Antibiotic Guardian

To earn this badge and become a Junior Antibiotic Guardian; you need to showcase your knowledge of Antibiotics and Antibiotic Resistance. This is part of activities for WHO's World Antibiotic Awareness Week and European Antibiotic Awareness Day in November of each year

[More by School Nurses](#)

[Start this badge mission](#)


## Task 2 | I am a Junior Antibiotic Guardian

For this task, produce either a poster, powerpoint or video showcasing your knowledge on Antibiotics and Antibiotic resistance. Use the resources below to gather information for your piece of work. Once you have completed your research and poster/presentation/video, upload it as badge evidence. The title of your poster, presentation or video should be I am a junior Antibiotic Guardian

Take a look at some [resources](#) to help you along the way.

[Senior Antibiotic Revision Guide](#)

Extension / challenge opportunity for task 2 - if you have had a session with your school nurse, include a comment, film with the School Nurse, highlight, image etc.



### Family Antibiotic Guardian

Take part in World Antibiotic Awareness Week and European Antibiotic Awareness Day activities by earning this Digital Badge as a family.

[Start this badge mission](#)

[Badge Mission](#) [Showcase](#)

## Task 3 | Encourage 2 to 5 members of your family or family friends to become Antibiotic Guardians

For this task, watch the Antibiotic Guardian video with your parents/carers, grandparents, older siblings, uncles, aunts, family friends (you can also send them website name so they can watch from anywhere including their mobile devices). Encourage them to choose a pledge (promise) on the website and sign up to become Antibiotic Guardians

Tell them to choose Junior/Family AG in the "how did you hear about us" section of the website

For evidence: in the box below tell us how many adults you watched video with or send links to and who they are.

**For example:** I watched the video with 3 adults - my mum, grandpa and older sister and I sent the link to 5 of my uncles and aunts/ parents friends

For additional evidence you can upload photographs of the adults holding their certificates, screenshot/printed picture.

Junior and Family Antibiotic Guardian have been developed by PHE in collaboration with Makewaves, for children, young adults and their families/carers to complete tasks and earn badges.

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Junior and Family Antibiotic Guardian](#)



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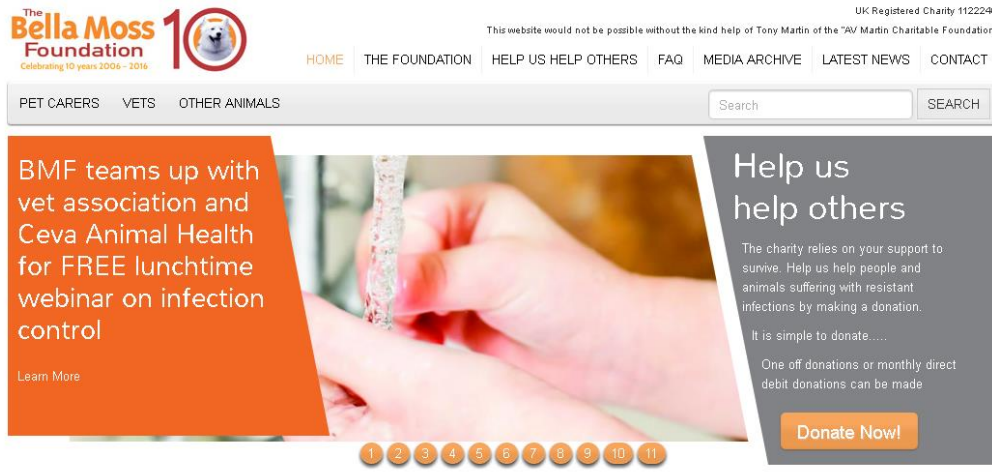
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# Resources for animal keepers





# The Bella Moss Foundation



Educating, supporting, pet carers and vets on the treatment of resistant bacteria

The Bella Moss Foundation provides an advice helpline for owners and clinicians, as well as educational resources for the public, including quizzes, hygiene tips and a new #BeatTheBugs video for families.



**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Bella Moss Foundation](#)

[The Bella Moss Foundation- Survey for pet owners on antibiotic use](#)

# Leaflets on antibiotic use in animals

## Make sure your antibiotics are working for you

To ensure the best possible outcome for your pet, it is really important that antibiotics are given correctly. Follow the simple tips below to make sure your pet's antibiotics work effectively and help your pet to make a swift and full recovery:

-  **Give the correct amount**  
As directed by your vet.
-  **Give at the correct time**  
If medication is to be given twice daily, give it at as close to 12 hourly intervals as you can, not at breakfast and tea time. Similarly, for three times daily, give at 8 hourly intervals.
-  **Give for the correct length of time**  
Even if your pet seems to be better, don't stop before the end of the prescribed course.
-  **Follow any specific instructions**  
For example whether medication should be given with or without food.
-  **Always go back to your vet for any scheduled recheck appointments**  
Your vet may wish to prescribe a longer course of antibiotics if the infection has not fully cleared.

**Used incorrectly, antibiotics may contribute to the spread of antibiotic resistance.**



For more information about antibiotic resistance go to [www.itsinfectious.co.uk](http://www.itsinfectious.co.uk) and for support with pet health visit [www.thebellamossfoundation.com](http://www.thebellamossfoundation.com)

## Hand washing guidelines




It's very **important** that you wash your hands thoroughly after touching pets.

Washing your hands **protects** you, your family and pets from unwanted bugs.



1. Wet your hands
2. Put on the soap - into your cupped hands if it's a liquid
3. Clean them for 15 to 20 seconds
  - Palm to palm
  - Back of hands
  - Between the fingers
  - Finger tips
  - Thumbs and wrists
  - Nails
4. Rinse your hands thoroughly using running water
5. Dry using a clean towel or disposable paper one.

[www.pdsa.org.uk](http://www.pdsa.org.uk)  
Registered charity no. 208217 & SC037505

**Resource: click below to access the resource**  
Bella Moss Foundation: Posters and Surveys for Your Practice

# Guidance for farmers on antibiotic use in farm animals



**Resource: click below to  
access the resource**  
British Veterinary Association:  
Antimicrobials



## Antibiotics—your role as a farmer



BVA client leaflet Number 4 • November 2013

### Antibiotics—what are they and why are they important

Antibiotics are drugs used to treat, and in some cases prevent, bacterial infections.

Antibiotics are vital to treat and prevent disease in animals and humans, but the risk that the organism causing the disease will develop resistance to them increases every time they are used.

### Antibiotics always need a veterinary prescription

To make sure antibiotics stay effective now and in the future, they must be strictly controlled. Only veterinary surgeons and human doctors are legally allowed to prescribe antibiotics, following an examination and clinical diagnosis.

Wherever possible, your vet will do a sensitivity test to determine which antibiotic will be most successful in treating a particular condition.

### Prevention is better than cure—your role as a farmer

As a farmer you can reduce animal disease and the need to use antibiotics to a large extent by good animal husbandry and management and by drawing up an effective health plan with your vet.

A health plan should outline how you will keep animals healthy and provide effective bio-security. Your vet should conduct frequent herd health visits to your farm.

Antibiotics should never replace good husbandry, bio-security and management practices. Prevention is essential for all animals, including companion animals and horses.

### Measures taken should always be science- and risk-based

Your vet should put in measures to ensure responsible use of antibiotics are based on scientific evidence and a thorough assessment of the risks they pose. With their knowledge and experience, vets play a pivotal role in developing better solutions to manage antibiotics.

### New and critically important antibiotics must be strictly controlled

Vets and farmers have to prevent development of resistance to antibiotics classed as “critically important” or to new antibiotics for as long as possible. Your vet should only prescribe these as a very last resort, following a sensitivity test, and should administer them themselves.

### Key points

- Farmers and vets have a responsibility to use antibiotics responsibly—over-the-counter and illegal sales should be prohibited.
- Animal health and human health = One Health. Animal and people's health are closely intertwined and it is important that farmers and vets work together for the common good.
- Speak to your vet today about drawing up a health plan and for any questions you have about antibiotics.

### About the BVA

The BVA is the national representative body for the UK veterinary profession. We support our members to fulfil their roles for the benefit of animals and the public.

This is one of a series of leaflets for animal owners produced by the BVA, you can find more at [www.bva.co.uk/public](http://www.bva.co.uk/public)



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# Public engagement activities



# Examples of public engagement activities to promote AMR

**news centre**

Home Business and Economy Community Education Environment Health and Wellbeing

## Ilfracombe Mums tums campaign targets overuse of antibiotics

Posted on: 15 September 2014

An innovative new campaign has been launched in Ilfracombe which aims to help increase confidence in mums that they're providing the right care for their children when they're suffering from common illnesses such as cough and colds.

The Listen to Your Gut campaign has been developed for parents by parents in conjunction with Devon County Council's Public Health Team and My Start Children's Centre in Ilfracombe, which is run by [Action for Children](#).

The campaign aims to increase parents' confidence in caring for a child with common illnesses such as a cold, cough sore throat or ear ache. It includes a social media animation and game and a guide on caring for an ill child.



The goal is to increase knowledge and understanding of how to care for an ill child and develop an understanding of antibiotics and their side effects, reducing demand for unnecessary antibiotics.

According to a review of GP practices in North Devon covering 65,000 patients, a quarter of patients received at least one prescription for antibiotics in the previous twelve months.

The review also showed that 25% of children under 10 were



Help Save Antibiotics  
[antibiotograndia.com](#)

Children's Health Listen To Your Gut

Devon County Council

Subscribe

2,833

+ Add to < Share ... More

**healthwatch**  
Devon

Home About Us Be Informed Be Involved Speak Out What the Health

Healthwatch Devon report on Care.data Health and care complaints system is "utterly bewildering" for people

## 'Antibiotic resistance' – latest topic for award winning Torbay Health Science Café

On March 19, 2014 • Add Comment

Antibiotic resistance is currently one of the most significant threats to patients' safety in Europe and will be the subject of a discussion at Torbay Hospital's next Health Science Café event on Monday 24 March at 6.00pm in the Horizon Centre Café.

At this free public event, Consultant Medical Microbiologist, Dr Paul Turner, and Antimicrobial Pharmacist, Stephanie Thompson will explain their roles at Torbay Hospital, the history of antibiotics and the development of resistance.

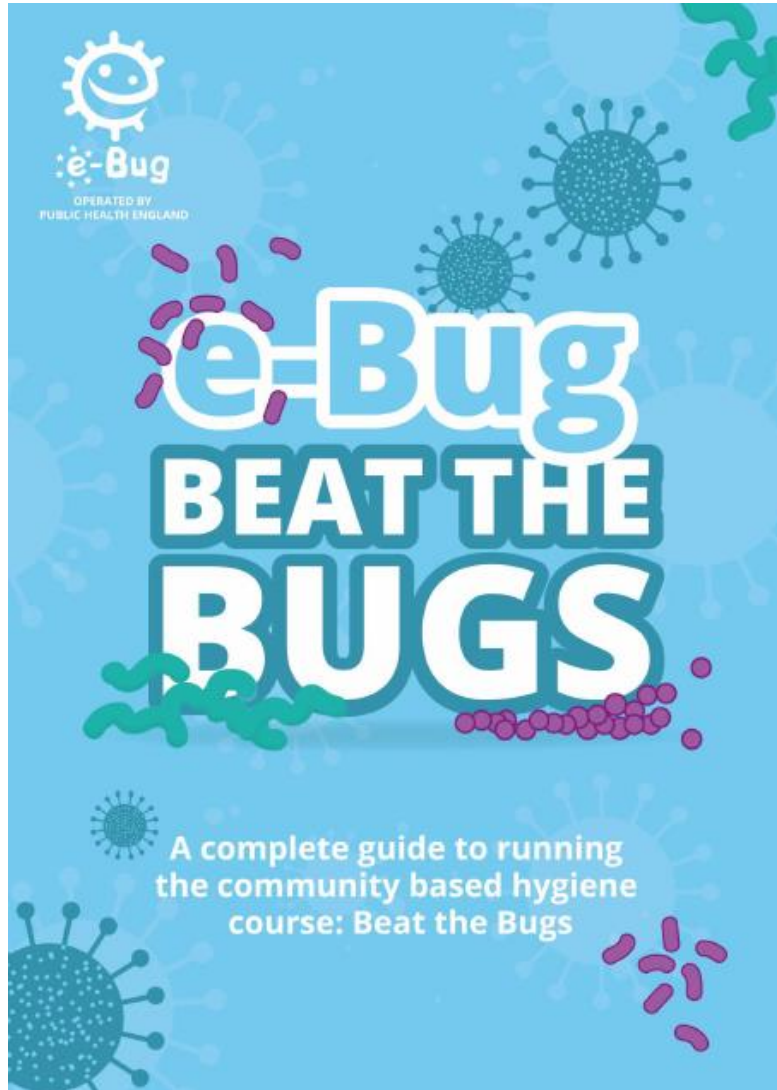
**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[Healthwatch Torbay Science Café](#)

[Mums tums campaign targets overuse of antibiotics](#)

[Listen to Your Gut video](#)

# Beat the Bugs Course



**Beat the Bugs** is a six week community hygiene course aiming to increase awareness and change behaviour around antibiotic use. The course comprises of six sessions covering an Introduction to Microbes, Hand and Respiratory hygiene, Food hygiene, Oral hygiene, Antibiotics and a final session on self-care and action planning for the future.

**Resource: click below to access the resource**

[E-Bug: Beat the Bugs Course](#)



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# Frequently asked questions?





# FAQs

## Q: What is antimicrobial resistance?

Antimicrobial resistance occurs when microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites change in ways that render the medications used to cure the infections they cause ineffective. When the microorganisms become resistant to most antimicrobials they are often referred to as “superbugs”. This is a major concern because a resistant infection may kill, can spread to others, and imposes huge costs to individuals and society.

Antimicrobial resistance is the broader term for resistance in different types of microorganisms and encompasses resistance to antibacterial, antiviral, antiparasitic and antifungal drugs.

Antimicrobial resistance is facilitated by the inappropriate use of medicines, for example, when taking substandard doses or not finishing a prescribed course of treatment. Low-quality medicines, wrong prescriptions and poor infection prevention and control also encourage the development and spread of drug resistance. Lack of government commitment to address these issues, poor surveillance and a diminishing arsenal of tools to diagnose, treat and prevent also hinder the control of antimicrobial drug resistance.<sup>1</sup>

## Q: What is the difference between antibiotic and antimicrobial resistance?

Antibiotic resistance occurs when bacteria change in response to the use of antibiotics used to treat bacterial infections (such as urinary tract infections, pneumonia, bloodstream infections) making them ineffective.

Antimicrobial resistance is a broader term, encompassing resistance to drugs that treat infections caused by other microbes as well, such as parasites (e.g. malaria or helminths), viruses (e.g. HIV) and fungi (e.g. Candida)<sup>1</sup>.

**Reference: click below to access the resource**

1. <http://www.who.int/features/qa/75/en/>

## Q: What is fuelling antibiotic resistance?

A third of the public believe that antibiotics will treat coughs and colds. 1 in 5 people expect antibiotics when they visit their doctor. GPs commonly express concerns that they feel pressurised by patients asking for antibiotics. For example, people asking on behalf of a child to treat infections that don't respond to the drugs.

Antibiotic prescribing and antibiotic resistance are inextricably linked. Areas with high levels of antibiotic prescribing also have high levels of resistance<sup>2</sup>.

## Q: Why is antimicrobial resistance a global concern?

New resistance mechanisms are emerging and spreading globally, threatening our ability to treat common infectious diseases, resulting in prolonged illness, disability, and death.

Without effective antimicrobials for prevention and treatment of infections, medical procedures such as organ transplantation, cancer chemotherapy, diabetes management and major surgery (for example, caesarean sections or hip replacements) become very high risk.

Antimicrobial resistance increases the cost of health care with lengthier stays in hospitals and more intensive care required.

Antimicrobial resistance is putting the gains of the Millennium Development Goals at risk and endangers achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>3</sup>.

### References: click below to access the resource

2. <http://www.who.int/features/qa/75/en/>

3. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs194/en/>

## Q: Who is prescribing?

- 74% General practice
- 11% Hospital inpatients
- 7% Hospital outpatients
- 5% Dental practices
- 3% Other community settings<sup>4</sup>

## Q: Does stopping a course of antibiotics early lead to antibiotic resistance?

There has been a lot of research into how long antibiotic courses should be, to determine the shortest possible length of course needed to completely kill all bacteria.

If you are being treated for an infection, the kind of antibiotics your doctor prescribes and the length of the course should be based on the best evidence.

If you stop treatment early, there is a risk the antibiotics won't have killed all the bacteria that made you sick and that it will mutate and become resistant. This will not happen to everyone – the problem is that we don't know who can safely stop treatment early.

By taking the full course prescribed by your doctor, even if you start to feel better earlier, you increase the chances of killing all of the bacteria and reduce the risk of resistance<sup>5</sup>.

### References: click below to access the resource

4. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance>

5. <http://www.who.int/features/qa/stopping-antibiotic-treatment/en/>

## Q: Why do we need to act now?

Antibiotics are a vital tool for modern medicine. Not only for the treatment of infections such as pneumonia, meningitis and tuberculosis. We also need them to avoid infections during chemotherapy, caesarean sections and other surgery.

A failure to address the problem of antibiotic resistance could result in:

- an estimated 10 million deaths every year globally by 2050
- a cost of £66 trillion in lost productivity to the global economy

Global concern about antibiotic resistance is compounded by the fact that the discovery of new classes of antibiotics is at an all-time low. It has been 30 years since a new class of antibiotics was last introduced.

Only 3 of the 41 antibiotics in development have the potential to act against the majority of the most resistant bacteria<sup>4</sup>.

### References: click below to access the resource

4. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance/health-matters-antimicrobial-resistance>

# Social Media Support

You may wish to use the attached key messages document to create your own social media posts, or you could simply use the messages below (preferably regularly) from now until European Antibiotic Awareness Day in November:

1. **#Antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest threats facing us today. You can help by becoming an **#AntibioticGuardian**** <http://bit.ly/ABGuardian>
2. **What is #antibiotic resistance and why is it a problem? Please help us fight back **#AntibioticGuardian**** <http://youtu.be/7PhmyNBWGik>
3. **We're supporting the **#AntibioticGuardian** campaign to save some of our most precious medicines. Sign up here:** <http://bit.ly/ABGuardian>
4. **Patients, the public, health profs/leaders can all sign up to become an **#AntibioticGuardian** and save our antibiotics** <http://bit.ly/ABGuardian>
5. **Help save our #antibiotics: Watch this video** <http://youtu.be/7PhmyNBWGik> **then sign up to be an **#AntibioticGuardian**** <http://bit.ly/ABGuardian>
6. **Take a photo with your Antibiotic Guardian certificate and upload it to Facebook/Twitter/Instagram using **#AntibioticGuardian****

What else can I do?

Take photos of e-Bug activities and share on social media. Twitter: @eBug\_UK Facebook: @eBugEngland

There are a range of blog posts on Antimicrobial resistance that can be shared with others or used to develop own materials, training or blog. <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/category/priority3/antimicrobial-resistance/>



This toolkit was developed by Aliya Rajah, chair of the AMR Public Involvement Forum in collaboration with:

Diane Ashiru-Oredope Karen Shaw Vicki Young	Public Health England	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england">https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england</a>
Isabel Boyer	Former ARHAI lay member	
Jane Binyon (lay member)	ARHAI lay member	
Fran Husson	ESPAUR lay member	
Samir Jeraj	Race Equality Foundation	<a href="http://www.raceequalityfoundation.org.uk/">http://www.raceequalityfoundation.org.uk/</a>
Sally Bloomfield Lisa Ackerley	International Scientific Forum on Home Hygiene	<a href="https://www.ifh-homehygiene.org/">https://www.ifh-homehygiene.org/</a>
Elaine Pendlebury	Bella Moss Foundation	<a href="http://www.thebellamossfoundation.com/">http://www.thebellamossfoundation.com/</a>
Grace O’Gorman	National Office of Animal Health (NOAH)	<a href="http://www.noah.co.uk/">http://www.noah.co.uk/</a>
Tessa Jelen	Breathe Easy	<a href="https://www.blf.org.uk/support-for-you/breathe-easy">https://www.blf.org.uk/support-for-you/breathe-easy</a>
Bev Taylor	National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA)	<a href="https://www.navca.org.uk/">https://www.navca.org.uk/</a>
Fay Sandler	Healthwatch Central West London	<a href="http://healthwatchcwl.co.uk/">http://healthwatchcwl.co.uk/</a>
Rodie Garland	FaithAction	<a href="http://www.faithaction.net/">http://www.faithaction.net/</a>
Magna Aidoo	Healthwatch Bromley and Lewisham	<a href="http://www.healthwatchlewisham.co.uk/">http://www.healthwatchlewisham.co.uk/</a>