

ANTIBIOTICS

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW? TRY OUR QUIZ FOR HEALTHCARE STAFF Are the following statements True or False?

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|-----------|---|--------------|
| 1 | Antibiotic resistance is when an antibiotic no longer works. The more you use an antibiotic, the more bacteria become resistant to it | True / False |
| 2 | Antibiotic resistance is just a UK problem and is not a problem world wide | True / False |
| 3 | Antibiotics have no side effects | True / False |
| 4 | Antibiotics may help virus infections such as colds get better more quickly | True / False |
| 5 | Buying antibiotics in other countries won't affect antibiotic resistance in UK | True / False |
| 6 | Not treating minor infections with antibiotics which would get better without is a way of reducing the development of resistance | True / False |
| 7 | Taking antibiotics at a lower dose than prescribed will help prevent resistance developing | True / False |
| 8 | The UK government is concerned that there are few new antibiotics being developed | True / False |
| 9 | Buying antibiotics over the internet is not recommended because antibiotics should only be taken when prescribed by your healthcare provider | True / False |
| 10 | You should take your antibiotics as prescribed by your doctor because the infection may not be completely killed if you don't follow the instructions. This could allow resistant bacteria to then infect you | True / False |

PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR THE ANSWERS – NO PEEKING!

ANTIBIOTICS HEALTHCARE STAFF QUIZ – ANSWERS

- 1 **Antibiotic resistance is when an antibiotic no longer works. The more you use an antibiotic, the more bacteria become resistant to it**
True.
- 2 **Antibiotic resistance is just a UK problem and is not a problem world wide**
False. Resistance is a global problem
- 3 **Antibiotics have no side effects**
False. They have many side effects – some which can be serious
- 4 **Antibiotics may help virus infections such as colds get better more quickly**
False. Antibiotics only kill bacteria, not viruses
- 5 **Buying antibiotics in other countries won't affect antibiotic resistance in UK**
False. Resistance knows no boundaries and resistant bacteria can spread from you to other people
- 6 **Not treating minor infections with antibiotics which would get better without is a way of reducing the development of resistance**
True. The less antibiotics that are used, the slower resistance will develop
- 7 **Taking antibiotics at a lower dose than prescribed will help prevent resistance developing**
False. Antibiotics must be taken at the correct dose. Lower doses encourage the development of resistance as they not reach high enough concentrations at the site of infection. If a lower dose is taken, or it is taken less often than prescribed, e.g. once or twice instead of 2 times daily.
- 8 **The UK government is concerned that there are few new antibiotics being developed**
True. They are supporting initiatives to promote antibiotic awareness and prudent prescribing
- 9 **Buying antibiotics over the internet is not recommended because antibiotics should only be taken when prescribed by your healthcare provider**
True. You should not self medicate with antibiotics. Also, medicines bought over the internet may not contain what they claim to contain, or may be a different strength to that declared. They may be contaminated with poisons or other chemicals as there is no regulation if you buy medicines from a non registered pharmacy supplier with a valid prescription
- 10 **You should take your antibiotics as prescribed by your doctor because the infection may not be completely killed if you don't follow the instructions. This could allow resistant bacteria to then infect you**
True. Always take the whole course prescribed to ensure all the bacteria are killed – even the 'tougher ones'