



Preserve Antibiotics for Future Generations

Why it matters to all of us

Antibiotics are important medicines that fight infections caused by **bacteria**, **not by viruses**.

Using antibiotics for infections caused by **viruses**:

- Won't help you get well
- Can turn bacteria into stronger germs or "Superbugs" which antibiotics don't work for anymore. This is called "antibiotic resistance."



Viruses cause most of these "winter illnesses."
Antibiotics do not work against viruses.

- **Colds**
- **Flu**
- **Ear Infections**
(otitis media with effusion)
- **Sore throat** (except strep)
- **Bronchitis** (chest cold, in otherwise healthy children and adults)

Your doctor will determine when an antibiotic is right for you.
Help keep antibiotics working for everyone!