

Do you need antibiotics?

Completing your antibiotic course

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Antibiotics are not always the right medicine for you when you feel unwell.

Your pharmacist can help

If you don't need antibiotics, there may be other ways to manage your symptoms.

Your pharmacist will ask you about what you have been feeling:

- Are you in pain?
- Do you have a fever or high temperature?
- Do you have any discharge or pus?
- Have you already had treatment for it and what was it?

Your answers to these questions will help the pharmacist to advise you whether you need antibiotics, or whether you need other types of treatment.

Completing your antibiotic course

It is important to take every one of your doses and finish your antibiotic course. It will help to make sure the bad bacteria are no longer there.

You may feel better after a few days and think you no longer need the antibiotic, but the bad bacteria may still be in your body. Keep taking the antibiotics even when you feel well, as the antibiotics are working in the background to keep you well.

Completing your course:

- ✓ helps to prevent the infection from coming back.
- ✓ stops the bad microbes from becoming stronger and resistant to the antibiotics.