

# Antibiotics Patient Survey

To test our patient's knowledge on the use of Antibiotics we gave out 200 questionnaires in May/June 2014; 196 of which were returned. Results are as follows;

1. The antibiotics my GP gave me have made me feel much better, but I still have some left to take...should I...

How Patients Answered

A. Throw the rest away as I feel better already and don't need them.

B. Take all of the course as prescribed.

C. Save them in case I need antibiotics sometime in the future.

Inconclusive

7

181

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2. If ever I get a cough, cold or sore throat, surely all I need is a dose of antibiotics to clear it up. This is...

A. Correct. Antibiotics will usually sort any of these out

B. Partly correct, but antibiotics will not get rid of a cold.

C. Wrong. Antibiotics don't work for colds, most coughs and sore throats.

Inconclusive

8

25

160

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3. My GP wouldn't prescribe me antibiotics even though I know that's what I need. I think it's because they want to save money. This is...

A. Correct. GPs need to find ways of reducing costs.

B. Wrong. GPs will only prescribe antibiotics when they are needed.

C. Partly correct. I've had antibiotics in the past and always used to get them from my GP, so why not now.

Inconclusive

12

175

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4. My GP has only given me a short prescription of antibiotics but I think I need them for longer. Should I...

A. Take the antibiotics as prescribed – or they may not clear the infection.

B. Take one less a day than prescribed, to make them last longer.

C. Use some of my friends antibiotics as they didn't use all the ones they were given last year.

Inconclusive

193

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5. There are a lot of colds going around at the moment but I've been told taking antibiotics 'just in case' can drive up antibiotic resistance. This is...

**A. Correct. Taking antibiotics when you don't need to will allow bacteria to develop a resistance to the antibiotic.**

**B.** Wrong. Taking antibiotics will help build up your defences and stop you getting a cold in the first place.

**C.** Wrong. Antibiotic resistance is only something elderly people get.

**Inconclusive**

**Not answered**

148

22

22

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