

# It's time for us to take antibiotic resistance

## SERIOUSLY.

**Imagine a world where antibiotics don't work.**

In 30 years this could be our reality. Simple infections that we can treat right now could become deadly. Antibiotic resistance is a **real health emergency** and is becoming the biggest threat to health worldwide.

Antibiotic resistance is when germs like bacteria can defeat the antibiotics designed to kill them. The overuse of antibiotics has made them less effective and has led to the emergence of "superbugs".

If we don't **take antibiotics seriously** today, we make it more likely they will **no longer work in the future.**

A cluster of several white, oval-shaped pills is shown in the bottom right corner of the image, overlapping each other.

## If you have been prescribed antibiotics it's important that you follow these simple steps:

### 1 Take the antibiotics as advised by your healthcare professional

It is really important to take the antibiotic course as recommended by your healthcare professional, even if you feel better after a couple of days.

If you don't take the antibiotics as recommended there is a chance the bacteria will still be in your system and another course of antibiotics may not work for you.

### 2 Never store or save antibiotics for another time and never share with others

If you take your course of antibiotics as prescribed, there should be none left over. If there are, you can take them back to your local pharmacy for safe disposal. **Do not keep or share unused antibiotics.** Taking could delay you getting the right treatment, this could make you, your friend, or family member feel worse and even cause side effects.

### 3 If you have any questions about your prescription, please contact your local community pharmacist who can help.

