

## Antibiotics

Antibiotics are miracle drugs that fight infections caused by bacteria. However, some bacteria can become resistant to antibiotics. Properly using antibiotics will ensure that antibiotics will be effective for you in the future. Eight tips for using antibiotics are:

- Talk to your health care provider about antibiotic resistance
- Ask your health care provider if an antibiotic is likely to be beneficial for your illness
- Ask your health care provider what else you can do to feel better sooner
- Only use antibiotics when they are likely to be beneficial
- Do not take an antibiotic for a viral infection (like a cold or flu)
- Do not save some of your antibiotic for the next time you get sick.
- Take an antibiotic exactly as the doctor tells you
- Do not take an antibiotic that was prescribed for something else.