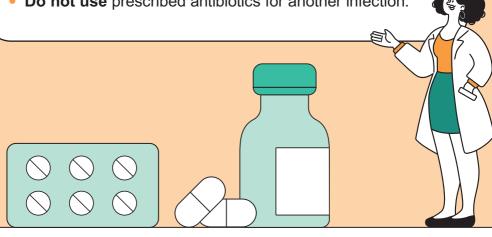
You have not received antibiotics?

- Your infection is most likely caused by a virus.
- Antibiotics do not work against viruses. They do not have any effect in your case.
- · Your immune defences are sufficient to fight the infection.

You have received antibiotics?

- Your infection is caused by a bacterium that must be treated with antibiotics.
- For optimal effect, take the antibiotics correctly. If in doubt, ask your doctor.
- **Do not share** prescribed antibiotics with other people.
- **Do not use** prescribed antibiotics for another infection.







Antibiotics: Key points

- Antibiotics are medicines that kill bacteria. They are necessary to help your body fight an infection caused by a bacterium.
- Different infections are caused by different bacteria.
 They each require a different antibiotic and treatment duration.
- Antibiotics can cause secondary effects: for example, they
 can cause allergies and digestive problems.
- Taking antibiotics unnecessarily can make them ineffective against certain bacteria: these bacteria are said to be "resistant to antibiotics" and can be difficult to treat.

You must ask for medical attention if your infection worsens or if treatment causes secondary effects.

