



Antibiotics

This is an easy way to read this word... an-ti-bi-o-tics

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|
|  | <p>What is this leaflet for?</p> <p>This leaflet is to help you understand more about your medicine</p> <p>Your medicine could look different to the photographs on this leaflet</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | <p>What is the medicine called?</p> <p>There are a lot of antibiotics</p> <p>You may see 1 of these names on your medicine:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>penicillin</td> <td>pe-ni-cill-in</td> </tr> <tr> <td>doxycycline</td> <td>dox-y-cy-cline</td> </tr> <tr> <td>amoxicillin</td> <td>am-ox-i-cill-in</td> </tr> <tr> <td>clarithromycin</td> <td>cla-rith-ro-my-cin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>metronidazole</td> <td>met-ron-i-da-zole</td> </tr> <tr> <td>nitrofurantoin</td> <td>ni-tro-fur-an-to-in</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ciprofloxacin</td> <td>ci-pro-flox-a-cin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>co-amoxiclav</td> <td>co-am-ox-i-clav</td> </tr> <tr> <td>trimethoprim</td> <td>tri-meth-o-prim</td> </tr> <tr> <td>flucloxacillin</td> <td>flu-clox-a-cill-in</td> </tr> <tr> <td>cefixime</td> <td>ce-fix-ime</td> </tr> </table> | penicillin | pe-ni-cill-in | doxycycline | dox-y-cy-cline | amoxicillin | am-ox-i-cill-in | clarithromycin | cla-rith-ro-my-cin | metronidazole | met-ron-i-da-zole | nitrofurantoin | ni-tro-fur-an-to-in | ciprofloxacin | ci-pro-flox-a-cin | co-amoxiclav | co-am-ox-i-clav | trimethoprim | tri-meth-o-prim | flucloxacillin | flu-clox-a-cill-in | cefixime | ce-fix-ime |
| penicillin | pe-ni-cill-in | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| doxycycline | dox-y-cy-cline | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| amoxicillin | am-ox-i-cill-in | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| clarithromycin | cla-rith-ro-my-cin | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| metronidazole | met-ron-i-da-zole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| nitrofurantoin | ni-tro-fur-an-to-in | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ciprofloxacin | ci-pro-flox-a-cin | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| co-amoxiclav | co-am-ox-i-clav | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| trimethoprim | tri-meth-o-prim | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| flucloxacillin | flu-clox-a-cill-in | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| cefixime | ce-fix-ime | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



What are antibiotics for?

Antibiotics are used to treat infections caused by bacteria

Your antibiotics are for:



What will my antibiotics do?

Antibiotics will treat your infection

Antibiotics should make you feel better

It may take a few days for antibiotics to have their full effect



What are the effects of antibiotics?

Side effects are effects medicine can have on your body that are not wanted

Not everyone taking a medicine will get side effects

Many side effects will go away with time

Many side effects are rare

You might want to talk to your doctor if you have any side effects





Some common side effects of antibiotics are:

- Headache
- Feeling dizzy
- Fever
- Tiredness (feeling sleepy)
- Skin peeling



Some side effects are more serious

You should tell someone **straight away** if any of the following happens as you may be having an **'allergic reaction'** :

- You have blisters in your nose, eyes, mouth or genitals
- You have a rash on your skin or your skin feels itchy
- Your chest feels tight or you find it hard to breath



How and when do I take antibiotics?

The label on your medicine packet should tell you when to take your medicine

The label should tell you how much medicine to take



You should follow the instructions carefully

You should swallow your tablet with water

Or...

Measure and swallow your liquid



If you forget to take your medicine, tell someone straight away

You should ask your pharmacist if you can crush your medicine or if it can be mixed with a drink



You should carry on taking your medicine even if you feel better unless your doctor asks you to stop



You should talk to your doctor before you stop taking your medicine



What do I need to know about antibiotics?

It is important that you take all of your medicine because your infection may come back



Some medicines do not work well together

You should tell your doctor about any other medicine you are taking



Where can I get more information?

This leaflet does not tell you everything about each antibiotic

If you want more information about a certain antibiotic you can:

- Ask your pharmacist, doctor or nurse
- Ask your carer to get more information for you
- Phone NHS **111**
- Phone the medicine info helpline on **020 3228 2999**

Acknowledgements for the information in this leaflet are to:

- TGHFT antibiotics outpatient summary
- General advice about Antibiotic side effects from patient website (www.patient.co.uk)
- University of Birmingham easy read medication leaflets (www.ld-medication.bham.ac.uk)
- The British national formulary (www.bnf.org)

This leaflet was discussed and agreed with the Tameside Learning Disability Shadow Board.