

ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE



Antibiotic resistance happens when bacteria change and become resistant to the antibiotics used to treat the infections they cause. This is compromising our ability to treat infectious diseases and undermining many advances in medicine.

We must handle antibiotics with care so they remain effective for as long as possible.

WHAT HEALTH WORKERS CAN DO



- 1 Prevent infections by ensuring your hands, instruments and environment are clean
- 2 Keep your patients' vaccinations up to date
- 3 If you think a patient might need antibiotics, where possible, **test to confirm** and find out which one
- 4 Only prescribe and dispense antibiotics when they are **truly needed**
- 5 Prescribe and dispense the **right antibiotic at the right dose for the right duration**

www.who.int/drugresistance

#AntibioticResistance



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WHAT POLICY MAKERS CAN DO



- 1 Ensure you have a robust national action plan to tackle antibiotic resistance
- 2 Improve surveillance of antibiotic-resistant infections
- 3 Strengthen policies and implementation of infection prevention and control measures
- 4 Regulate and promote the appropriate use of quality medicines
- 5 Make information on the impact of antibiotic resistance available

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WHAT YOU CAN DO



- 1 Only use antibiotics when prescribed by a certified health professional
- 2 Always take the full prescription, even if you feel better
- 3 Never use left over antibiotics
- 4 Never share antibiotics with others
- 5 Prevent infections by regularly washing your hands, avoiding close contact with sick people and keeping your vaccinations up to date

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Antibiotic resistance happens when bacteria change and become resistant to the antibiotics used to treat the infections they cause.

The over-use and misuse of antibiotics in livestock, aquaculture and crops is one key factor contributing to antibiotic resistance and its spread into the environment, food chain and humans. This is compromising our ability to treat infectious diseases and undermining many advances in medicine.

We must handle antibiotics with care so they remain effective for as long as possible.

WHAT THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR CAN DO



- 1 Ensure that antibiotics given to animals—including food-producing and companion animals—are **only used to control or treat** infectious diseases and under veterinary supervision
- 2 **Vaccinate** animals to reduce the need for antibiotics and **develop alternatives** to the use of antibiotics in plants
- 3 Promote and apply **good practices** at all steps of production and processing of foods from animal and plant sources
- 4 Adopt **sustainable systems** with improved hygiene, biosecurity and stress-free handling of animals
- 5 Implement **international standards** for the responsible use of antibiotics and guidelines, set out by OIE, FAO and WHO