



Your pet received antibiotics today – this means your vet:

- Found evidence of a bacterial infection that may not improve without antibiotics.
- Investigated and treated any underlying non-bacterial diseases.
- Considered other treatment options.
- Took a sample to identify the bacteria and the effective antibiotics.
- Selected the appropriate drug, dose and duration to treat the infection.
- Referred to Australian antibiotic prescribing guidelines.

It is important that you:

- Give the antibiotics as prescribed on the label even if symptoms improve.
- Monitor your pet closely and contact your vet if it does not improve or has side effects.
- Revisit your vet if requested.
- Understand that further tests and treatments may be required if the condition does not improve.



Why didn't your pet receive antibiotics today?

- Your vet has assessed your pet and decided antibiotics are not necessary right now.
- Many conditions, like viral infections, will get better without antibiotics.
- Further tests may be required to decide which antibiotic to use, if any.

It is important that you:

- Give any medications as prescribed and follow your vet's advice.
- Monitor your pet closely and contact your vet if it does not improve.

Why pets should only receive antibiotics when absolutely necessary:

- Antibiotic use can cause 'resistance', where the bacteria adapt so the antibiotic no longer works.
- You can catch antibiotic resistant bacteria from your pet, meaning antibiotics may not work next time you get sick.
- Antibiotics can upset the natural balance of good bacteria in the body and cause negative side effects.
- Some antibiotics can also cause allergic reactions.

Play your part in preventing antibiotic resistant infections.

For more information visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/amr

NOT ALL **BUGS** NEED **DRUGS**

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