**Prescription/treatment information – Small animals**

The information provided sets out points for vets to discuss with clients about the treatment that has been provided to their animals.

**Your pet received antibiotics today – this means your vet:**

Check box - Found evidence of a bacterial infection that may not improve without antibiotics.

Check box - Investigated and treated any underlying non-bacterial diseases.

Check box - Considered other treatment options.

Check box - Took a sample to identify the bacteria and the effective antibiotics.

Check box - Selected the appropriate drug dose and duration to treat the infection.

Check box - 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?**

Check box – Your vet has assessed your pet and decided antibiotics are not necessary right now.

Check box – Many conditions, like viral infections, will get better without antibiotics.

Check box – 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 or has side effects.

**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**

**Agriculture Victoria logo**

Developed and designed by Agriculture Victoria



**Play your part in preventing antibiotic resistant infe**