Antibiotics don’t work for colds or flu because they’re viral infections, so ask your pharmacist for the best treatment for you. Taking antibiotics when you don’t need them encourages dangerous bacteria that live inside you to become resistant. That means that antibiotics may not work when you next need them most. This puts you and your family at serious risk.

When it comes to antibiotics, take your doctor’s advice.

Keep Antibiotics Working

Search: NHS Antibiotics
ANTIBIOTICS DON’T WORK FOR

- Colds
- Flu
- Vomiting
- Most coughs
- Most ear infections
- Most sore throats
- Most diarrhoea
- Most cystitis

Ask your pharmacist for advice

ANTIBIOTICS ARE NEEDED FOR

- Serious bacterial infections including:
  - Pneumonia
  - Urinary tract infections
  - Sexually transmitted infections like gonorrhoea
  - Sepsis
  - Meningococcal meningitis

Take your doctor’s advice