

# HELP US USE ANTIBIOTICS *Responsibly*



Antibiotic resistance is a growing problem in human and veterinary medicine. A significant contributing factor is the inappropriate and overuse of antibiotics. Our practice is committed to using antibiotics responsibly.



## WHAT IS ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE?

Antibiotics are used to treat infections caused by bacteria. Bacteria can adapt to resist the antibiotic and they are then no longer clinically effective.

There is research to develop new antibiotics, but this can take years.



## WHAT CAN WE DO?

We need to use antibiotics when needed rather than just in case, as this will reduce the volume of unnecessary prescriptions. We also must use measures to reduce the chances of infection so antibiotics won't be needed. If we don't take these measures or act to prevent resistance, in the future the risk of infection might be so high that procedures like chemotherapy or surgery become too risky to undertake, and currently commonplace infections become fatal.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP US



**Good hygiene** helps prevent infection



**Trust your vet's advice** on when antimicrobials are or are not indicated



Always **give antibiotics as prescribed**

## #AntimicrobialResistance

ANTIMICROBIALS  
HANDLE WITH CARE  
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