EUROPEAN ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS DAY
A EUROPEAN HEALTH INITIATIVE

Care for your kids - use antibiotics wisely

ecdc
EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Understanding childhood infections



Most childhood coughs and sniffs are caused by viruses.

Antibiotics do not work against viruses.

Usually the best medicine is rest, time and plenty to drink. Antibiotics will not make viral infections go away faster. Giving antibiotics "just in case" may do more harm than good.



Still coughing? Often nothing to worry about. Many children continue coughing for 2-3 weeks after a cold.

Talk to your doctor about:
- **what's normal**
- **warning signs**
- **when to seek help.**





If your child has a bacterial infection, antibiotics could be crucial. And then it's also crucial that they work. Every unnecessary use increases the risk of bacteria becoming resistant to antibiotics.

Protect antibiotics so they can protect your children.