

So you've heard a lot about antibiotics?

SALES DATA DOES NOT TELL THE WHOLE STORY

ANTIBIOTIC:

[an-ti-bahy-ot-ik]

noun



a naturally occurring, semi-synthetic or synthetic substance that exhibits antibacterial activity (i.e. it kills or inhibits the growth of bacteria).

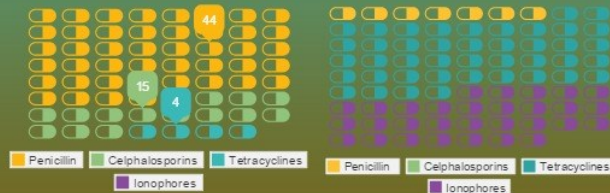


Prescribed for
Disease Prevention

Prescribed for
Disease Control

Prescribed for
Disease Treatment

TYPES OF ANTIBIOTICS USED:



HUMANS

When a patient is getting their teeth clean a dentist can prescribe antibiotic in order to keep a tender mouth patient from developing an infection

When a college student is diagnosed with Meningitis all students who have been in contact with the infected student are offered a short term oral medicine to control further spread

Children develop ear infections then are given antibiotic to fight the infection.



LIVESTOCK

Turkeys and chickens are given antibiotics to prevent serious and fatal bacterial intestinal infection.

One animal becomes clinically ill and the entire herd/flock will be given an antibiotic to stop the disease from spreading to other animals.

A pig may have contracted a respiratory infection and is treated.

GROWTH PROMOTION:

Currently, livestock producers can use antibiotics – as approved by FDA – to allow animals to grow more efficiently using less feed. However, these uses – called growth promotion – are being eliminated by FDA with the cooperation of the agricultural community.

UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG (FDA) GUIDANCE

Under a new FDA policy, antibiotics used in human medicine will not be used for growth promotion. This policy, being implemented with the cooperation of the agricultural community, will phase out the use of medically important antibiotics for growth promotion and phase in veterinary oversight for all remaining uses of antibiotics in food animals. It is anticipated that by December 2016, all uses of these antibiotics in farm animals will only be to prevent disease and treat sick animals, under the care and prescription of a licensed veterinarian.