

Antibiotics Version A

Sometimes when you are sick, a doctor will give you a prescription for an antibiotic. An antibiotic is used to cure an illness caused by bacteria. The antibiotic kills the bacteria that are making you sick. Some common illnesses caused by bacteria are ear infections, strep throat, pneumonia, diarrhea, and urinary tract infections.

You can also get _____ from a virus. Some common illnesses caused by viruses are _____ and the _____. Viruses and bacteria are different. Taking an antibiotic for a sickness caused by a _____ will not make you better and will not _____ the virus.

Sometimes taking an antibiotic when you are sick from a virus can hurt you. If you see a doctor, you should ask if you are sick from bacteria or a virus. The doctor will only give you an antibiotic if you are sick from bacteria.

If you are taking an antibiotic, it is very important to follow the _____. If you don't _____ the directions, the bacteria can become stronger and can make you sick _____. Some directions say to throw away the antibiotic after a certain _____ of days. Some directions say to take all of the _____ until it is gone.