

# DID YOU KNOW:

All colds and most coughs, sinusitis, earache and sore throats often get better without antibiotics.

## ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE IN NUMBERS:

# 10 MILLION LIVES

A failure to address the problem of antibiotic resistance could result in:

- an estimated 10 million deaths globally by 2050

# £66 TRILLION

Cost by 2050 in lost productivity to the global economy due to antibiotic resistance

## WHAT IF I'M WORRIED OR FEEL WORSE AFTER SEEING THE DENTIST?

Contact your dentist or phone NHS 111 if any of the following occur:

- ⊗ You develop a fever over 102°F (38°C).
- ⊗ You develop redness and swelling of your face, jaw or neck.
- ⊗ You are unable to open your mouth.
- ⊗ You have severe pain uncontrolled by pain medicine.
- ⊗ You have difficulty swallowing.

Your dentist will advise you on the most appropriate treatment for you.

Find out more and choose a pledge to become an Antibiotic Guardian  
[www.antibioticguardian.com](http://www.antibioticguardian.com)



antibiotics  
**DON'T** cure  
toothache!

Contact information for out of hours dental advice:  
NHS 111



# antibiotics **DON'T** cure toothache!





TOOTHACHE CAN BE CAUSED BY MANY THINGS SUCH AS;

- ⊗ Tooth decay
- ⊗ Broken teeth
- ⊗ Gum disease
- ⊗ Abscesses or infections
- ⊗ Jaw problems

CAN I HAVE ANTIBIOTICS FOR TOOTHACHE?

- ⊗ Your dentist will decide whether antibiotics are appropriate for your dental problem.

⊗ Antibiotics on their own do not remove the infection or stop pain. Dental treatment is usually needed as well.

- ⊗ Antibiotics, like other medicines, can also have side-effects so won't be prescribed unless absolutely necessary.

# ANTIBIOTICS: THERE ARE BETTER WAYS TO MANAGE TOOTHACHE & INFECTION

**ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE is one of the biggest threats facing the world today.**

- ⊗ Unlike many things in medicine antibiotics work less effectively the more often they are taken.
- ⊗ Be aware that antibiotics are not always the best way to manage toothache and dental infection.

HOW IS TOOTHACHE TREATED?

- ⊗ A dentist needs to examine your mouth and decide the cause of the pain.
- ⊗ Dental treatment may then be needed, such as fillings, root treatment or sometimes extraction of the tooth.
- ⊗ Painkillers can help – paracetamol and, if you can safely take it, ibuprofen. Both can be bought from pharmacies.
- ⊗ Always read the patient information leaflet and check it is safe for you to take either medicine. You can ask your pharmacist for advice.

