## Antibiotics

## Know the facts

- Antibiotics are life-saving drugs when used wisely.
- Antibiotics treat infections caused by bacteria. They do not work on viruses that cause colds and flu.
- Each year, almost 2 million people in the U.S. become infected with bacteria that antibiotics can't treat. These bacteria no longer respond to antibiotics. At least 23,000 people die each year from these infections.
- A reaction to an antibiotic may require a visit to the ER, especially for kids.
- Antibiotics also kill good bacteria in your body. This may lead to other problems like diarrhea or yeast infections.

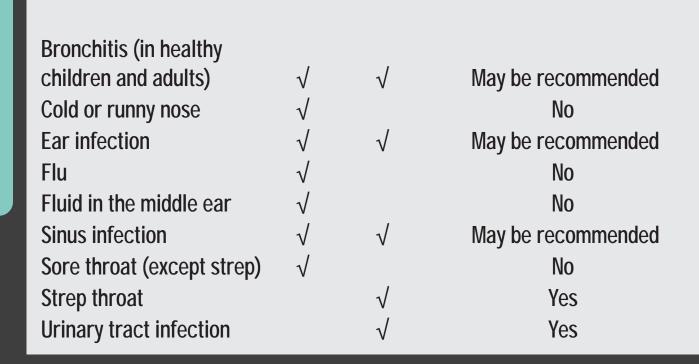






## When do you really need an antibiotic?

Antibiotics are powerful drugs for fighting infections. They don't work for every sickness. This chart shows when you m37 7k



## Questions to ask when you are given an antibiotic: