

Online Resource 1: AB knowledge individual items

Table S1: Participants' responses to the individual antibiotic knowledge items

Question	% True	% False	% Don't Know
Colds and flu usually get better on their own.	57.3	19.4	23.3
Overuse of antibiotics can cause antibiotic resistance.	55.7	10.4	34.0
Bacteria which are resistant to antibiotics can spread from person to person.	46.2	18.9	34.9
Antibiotic resistance is a problem that could affect me or my family.	44.3	21.7	34.0
Anyone could get an antibiotic resistant infection, even people who always take antibiotics correctly.	43.4	19.8	36.8
Antibiotics can cause side-effects, such as diarrhoea or nausea.	36.5	21.2	42.3
Antibiotic resistance means that bacteria become resistant to antibiotics, so the antibiotics no longer work as well against those bacteria.	35.6	15.4	49.0
If you have an infection caused by a virus, antibiotics do not help.	30.5	33.3	36.2
Today, antibiotic resistance is a big problem in Germany.	22.9	17.1	60.0
If you have a sore throat, taking antibiotics usually helps.	59.0	14.3	26.7
Antibiotics used to treat pain and inflammation.	58.4	12.9	28.7
Antibiotics help you to recover faster when you have a cold	57.7	21.2	21.2
Antibiotics can be used to treat infections caused by bacteria.	51.4	17.1	31.4
Having a fever is a sign that you should take antibiotics	50.5	22.9	26.7
In my opinion it is always better to take antibiotics when you are sick to avoid complications.	43.4	26.4	30.2
Antibiotic resistance means that your body becomes resistant to antibiotics, so that the antibiotics no longer work as well for you.	41.7	14.6	43.7
Headaches and body aches can be treated with antibiotics.	39.2	29.4	31.4
Antibiotic resistance is only a problem for people who use antibiotics regularly.	31.1	16.0	52.8
An ear infection in a child almost always needs to be treated with antibiotics.	30.3	22.2	47.5
Diarrhoea can be treated with antibiotics.	26.9	31.7	41.3