



AMR Key Messages for Prescribers:

- Use antibiotics responsibly, when antibiotic treatment is needed, the antibiotic should be tailored for the patient, the likely site of infection and causative organism
- Patients receiving antibiotics should receive the right drug, at the right dose, at the right time and the right duration for the individual
- It is important that antimicrobial therapy is administered within one hour of recognition of severe sepsis or septic shock
- Unnecessary lengthy duration of antibiotic treatment and inappropriate use of broad-spectrum antibiotics should be avoided
- Primary care prescribers continue to be encouraged to only prescribe antibiotics when they are needed for bacterial infections, and not for self-limiting mild infections such as colds and most coughs, sinusitis, earache and sore throats
- Communication is key. Studies show that patients are less likely to ask their GP for antibiotics if advised what to expect in the course of an illness and given a self-care plan. Discussing information on the guide to infection leaflet can facilitate this
- Promote good infection prevention and control measures to reduce cross-infection; proactively reducing the number of infections can in turn reduce the frequency of antibiotic prescriptions and have a positive impact on reducing antibiotic resistance.
- GPs are also encouraged to focus on antimicrobial stewardship.