

## **PUBLIC AWARENESS PAMPHLET**

### **Role of Public in Fighting Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR): A Growing Public Health Threat**

#### **Use Antibiotics Only with a Doctor's Prescription**

- Antibiotics should be used **ONLY** when prescribed by a qualified doctor.
- Purchase antibiotics from a medical shop **ONLY on the basis of a valid prescription.**
- Never buy antibiotics over-the-counter without medical advice. Never self-medicate.

#### **Understand When Antibiotics Work — And When They Do NOT**

##### **✗ Do Not Use Antibiotics for Viral Illness**

- Antibiotics treat **bacterial infections ONLY.** Antibiotics do NOT work for the common cold, influenza (flu), or other viral infections.
- **Taking antibiotics when not needed leads to resistance.**

#### **Avoid Quacks & Improper Advice**

- Do NOT start antibiotics on the advice of unqualified practitioners (quacks).
- Do NOT rely on suggestions from non-prescribing persons.
- Do NOT buy partial doses or lower-strength versions of medicines.

**⚠** Improper dosing helps microbes survive and become resistant — leading to **AMR.**

#### **Complete the Full Course — Mandatorily**

✓ Take the **full prescription** as directed: Correct dose, Correct frequency, Correct number of days

✗ Even if you start feeling better — **DO NOT stop early.** Stopping midway allows bacteria to survive and develop resistance.

#### **✗ Never Share or Reuse Antibiotics**

- Do NOT share antibiotics with family or friends.
- Do NOT use leftover antibiotics from previous illness.
- Every infection requires proper medical evaluation.

### **BE MEDICINE SMART!**

Got a: **Headache?** **Common Cold?** **Stomach Pain?**

Before buying antibiotics, **STOP** and **THINK:**

**?** If I take this without a prescription, will it stop working for me when I truly need it?

#### **⚠ Remember:**

Taking antibiotics unnecessarily today may make them ineffective tomorrow — when your life may depend on them.

#### **GET TALKING — SPREAD AWARENESS!**

You can help protect your family and community. Tell your friends. Tell your family. Tell your neighbours.

**“Misusing and overusing antibiotics puts us all at risk.”**

✓ **Together, We Can Curb Antimicrobial Resistance**

**Responsible Use Today — Protection for Tomorrow**

**Issued in Public Interest by**

Drugs Control Administration, Government of Telangana