# **Antibiotic scenarios – leader discussion points**

## **Scenario 1**

**Amy had a runny nose and really sore throat so she went to the doctor**

Discussion points:

* Many infections get better on their own without the need for antibiotics.
* Antibiotics won’t make a difference to how long your symptoms/illness/infection lasts if they are not caused by bacteria.
* All runny noses are caused by viruses which antibiotics do not work on – so there is no point taking an antibiotic.
* If you become ill very quickly, have a red throat with high temperature and no cough or runny nose, you are more likely to benefit from antibiotics.

## **Scenario 2**

**Alisha has a urine infection and has been prescribed antibiotics by her doctor**

Discussion points:

**Correct options:-**

* Do what the doctor says and take them for the 3 days.
* Take the left-overs back to the chemist.
* If you take more days, your bugs are more likely to become resistant, and the antibiotics won’t work the next time you need them.
* Don’t take any extras as that will kill more of your useful bugs in your gut too.

**Incorrect options if needed:-**

* Keep the rest for next time.
* Stop taking them now. What’s the point in taking them if you are feeling better?
* Take the whole pack and then you’ll definitely kill the bugs.

**Scenario 3:** Chloe was talking to her friend Jamie about her headache and cough.

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|  | Correct | Incorrect |
| Gosh no, I shouldn’t take anyone else’s antibiotics. |  |  |
| Great idea – we have some left-over from when my sister had an ear infection. |  |  |
| Yes I had a cough a few weeks ago and went to the out-of-hours and they gave me a prescription, but I didn’t bother to cash it in. I’ll do it now! |  |  |
| I don’t have any antibiotics in the cupboard – don’t you always take them back to the chemist? |  |  |
| I’ve never had any antibiotics – so we don’t have any in the cupboard. |  |  |
| I had a urinary tract infection last month. I’ll use the left-over antibiotics from them. |  |  |
| I shouldn’t take antibiotics that are left over. |  |  |
| I don’t have any at home, but I’ll ask Josie, she is always at the doctor with her coughs. |  |  |
| I only take antibiotics if the doctor prescribes them. |  |  |
| I think I should just take some pain relief and go to bed. |  |  |