Antimicrobial resistance happens when bacteria and other microorganisms change after being exposed to antimicrobial drugs. Antibiotics are among the most common antimicrobial drugs used in humans and animals. The overuse and misuse of antibiotics is speeding up the development of resistance and putting us all at risk.

Antibiotic resistance can affect anyone, of any age, in any country. It is a threat to human health, food security and sustainable development.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Stop overuse and misuse of antibiotics by:
   > Seeking advice from a qualified health professional before using antibiotics
   > If prescribed antibiotics, following a health professional’s advice on how to take them
   > Educating family and friends about antibiotic resistance

2. Prevent the spread of infection by:
   > Washing hands regularly
   > Preparing food hygienically
   > Keeping vaccinations up to date

www.antibioticawarenessweek.org
Antimicrobial resistance happens when bacteria and other microorganisms change after being exposed to antimicrobial drugs. Antibiotics are among the most common antimicrobial drugs used in humans and animals. The overuse and misuse of antibiotics is speeding up the development of resistance and putting us all at risk.

Antibiotic resistance can affect anyone, of any age, in any country. It is a threat to human health, food security and sustainable development.

**WHAT GOVERNMENT CAN DO**

Including policymakers, heads of ministries, regulatory authorities

1. **Stop overuse and misuse of antibiotics by:**
   - Supporting a multi-sectoral national action plan on antimicrobial resistance
   - Developing and enforcing regulations to stop overuse and misuse of antibiotics in humans and animals
   - Making information on how to stop overuse and misuse of antibiotics available to citizens

2. **Develop and enforce regulations to prevent the spread of infection through:**
   - Monitoring hospitals' and clinics' compliance with infection prevention and control standards
   - Enforcing good agriculture and food production practices
   - Ensuring communities have access to safe water and sanitation

www.antibioticawarenessweek.org
Antimicrobial resistance happens when bacteria and other microorganisms change after being exposed to antimicrobial drugs. Antibiotics are among the most common antimicrobial drugs used in humans and animals. The overuse and misuse of antibiotics is speeding up the development of resistance and putting us all at risk.

Antibiotic resistance can affect anyone, of any age, in any country. It is a threat to human health, food security and sustainable development.

**WHAT VETERINARIANS AND ANIMAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS CAN DO**

1. **Stop overuse and misuse of antibiotics by:**
   > Prescribing and giving antibiotics to animals under my care only when necessary
   > Making the right choice of antibiotic through accurate diagnosis
   > Educating animal owners about the risks of antibiotic resistance

2. **Prevent the spread of infection by:**
   > Ensuring hands, instruments and environment are always clean
   > Vaccinating animals and isolating sick ones to prevent the spread of disease
   > Promoting hygiene and other good practices among farmers and animal owners

www.antibioticawarenessweek.org
Antimicrobial resistance happens when bacteria and other microorganisms change after being exposed to antimicrobial drugs. Antibiotics are among the most common antimicrobial drugs used in humans and animals. The overuse and misuse of antibiotics is speeding up the development of resistance and putting us all at risk.

Misuse of antibiotics in livestock, poultry, aquaculture, and crops is a key factor contributing to the growth of antibiotic resistance and the spread of resistant bacteria to humans through the environment and food chain.

**WHAT FOOD PRODUCERS CAN DO**

*Including livestock and poultry raisers, aquatic animal farmers, crop producers*

1. **Stop overuse and misuse of antibiotics by:**
   - Ensuring antibiotics are only given to animals under veterinary supervision
   - Never using antibiotics for growth promotion
   - Increasing awareness about the risks of overusing and misusing antibiotics

2. **Prevent the spread of infection by:**
   - Applying good practices at all steps of food production
   - Keeping animals in clean and sanitary conditions and preventing overcrowding
   - Vaccinating animals and isolating sick ones to prevent the spread of disease

#ANTIBIOTICRESISTANCE

www.antibioticawarenessweek.org
Antimicrobial resistance happens when bacteria and other microorganisms change after being exposed to antimicrobial drugs. Antibiotics are among the most common antimicrobial drugs used in humans and animals. The overuse and misuse of antibiotics is speeding up the development of resistance and putting us all at risk.

Antibiotic resistance can affect anyone, of any age, in any country. It is a threat to human health, food security and sustainable development.

### WHAT HEALTH WORKERS SHOULD DO
*Including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, dentists*

1. **Stop overuse and misuse of antibiotics by:**
   - Prescribing and dispensing antibiotics only when needed and according to current guidelines
   - Educating patients about how to take antibiotics, and the dangers of misuse
   - Properly disposing of expired and unused antibiotics

2. **Prevent the spread of infections by:**
   - Keeping patients’ vaccinations up to date
   - Ensuring hands, instruments and environment are always clean
   - Working with others to improve infection prevention and control