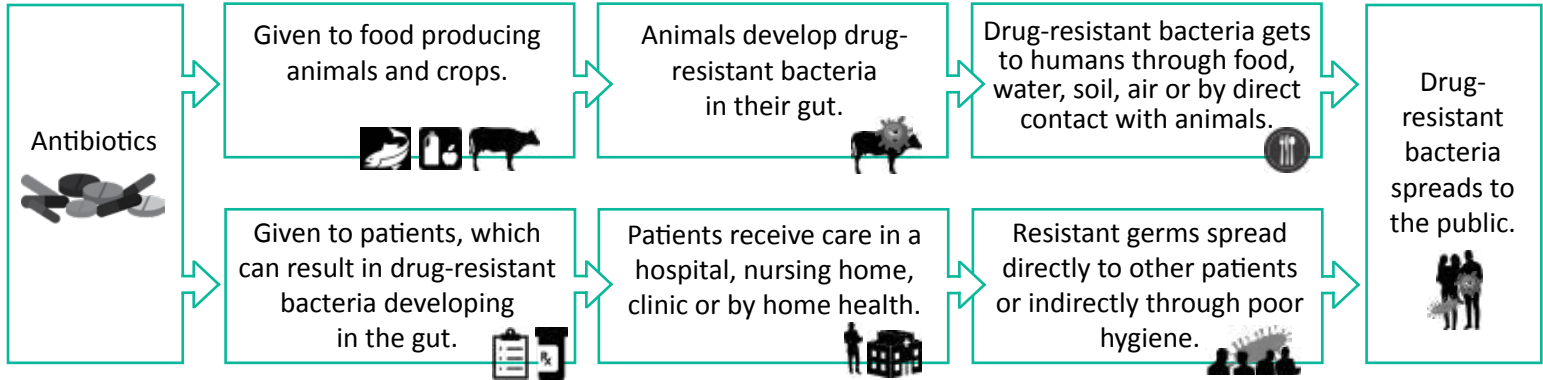


# Antibiotic Stewardship


**What is antibiotic stewardship?** ⇒ The coordinated effort to protect antibiotics and prevent antibiotic resistance.


**What is antibiotic resistance?** ⇒ When germs, like bacteria and fungi, develop the ability to defeat the drugs designed to kill them, they continue to grow.

## How Antibiotic Resistance Spreads




## Do your part... Protect, Prevent and Preserve


 Cover your cough

 Wash your hands

 Stay up-to-date with **immunizations**

 Stay home when sick

 Take **antibiotics** responsibly

 Lives depend on it

# When are antibiotics needed?

Antibiotics only work on bacterial infections

Antibiotics do not work on viruses!

## Bacteria vs. Virus

### BACTERIA

- Strep throat
- Whooping cough
- Urinary tract infection

Antibiotics?  
**YES**

### BOTH

- Sinus infection
- Middle ear infection
- Bronchitis\*

Antibiotics?  
**MAYBE**

### VIRUS

- Common cold
- Sore throat
- Flu

Antibiotics?  
**NO**

\*Studies show that in otherwise healthy children and adults, antibiotics for bronchitis will not help you feel better.

Make sure you are taking antibiotics for the right reasons; ask these five questions:

1. Do I really need antibiotics?
2. What are the risks?
3. Are there simpler, safer options?
4. How much do they cost?
5. How do I safely take antibiotics?

