

Antibiotic Advice Sheet

What you should do to make sure the antibiotics work:

- They must be taken as directed (ask your pharmacist or read the label/advice sheet).
- It is very important to complete the full course of antibiotics, even if you feel better and your symptoms disappear.

What to do if you feel pain:

- It may take up to 24 hours before you feel the benefit of the antibiotics.
- If you are in pain you can take painkillers but be sure to follow the directions on the packaging and don't exceed the maximum daily dose.
- Alternate between different types of painkiller if needed.

If you find that:

- Your swelling gets worse OR
- The pain increases OR
- You begin to develop a temperature

then **Contact us immediately** for advice on the telephone number above. If it happens to be the weekend or out of hours, please call NHS 24 on 111.

What to do if you experience side effects:

- If you experience a rash/fever, stop taking the antibiotics and contact either the practice, your GP or NHS 24 on 111.
- If you are prescribed **Metronidazole** you must not drink alcohol during the course of antibiotics - mixing the two will make you feel very sick.

Pregnancy / Contraceptive Pill:

- Please inform the dentist if you learn that you are pregnant whilst taking the antibiotic course

If you are taking the contraceptive pill, you must use additional methods of contraception whilst you are taking the antibiotics and **for seven days after** you complete the course .