

A close-up photograph of a person's hand, palm up, holding two white, oval-shaped pills. The hand is wearing a silver ring on the ring finger and a brown sleeve. The background is a blurred clinical setting with a wooden cabinet and a white sink.

Australia has a higher prescribing rate of antimicrobials compared with most European countries and Canada.

Many patients are still given antimicrobials even when there is no evidence of benefit.

Almost 25% of antimicrobial prescriptions in Australia are inappropriate. This means that they are either unnecessary or the wrong type of medicine for the infection.

Taking antibiotics too often or for the wrong reasons increases the chance of these drugs becoming ineffective.

**A**  
**HUMAN HEALTH**  
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