

ANTIBIOTIC ACTION

WHY ANTIBIOTICS ARE IMPORTANT FOR... PEOPLE HAVING JOINTS REPLACED

If people develop infections following a joint replacement, the consequences can be very severe. Infections can cause pain, loss of movement, and joint failure, so antibiotics are an essential part of caring for people with joint replacements.

The spread of **drug-resistant bacteria** is reducing the ability to control infections in people with joint replacements.

Despite improvements in modern medicine, this means that more people with joint replacements will suffer painful infections, and may even need more surgeries.

It is vital that we preserve our precious antibiotic resources by only using them when needed.

We can all play our part in reducing the spread of resistance by using antibiotics wisely.

Don't ask and **don't expect antibiotics** for colds, sore throats or flu – these are caused by viruses so antibiotics don't work.

Only take antibiotics given to you by your doctor and EXACTLY as written on the bottle: take them at the times directed and **always complete the full course.**

Never give your antibiotics to other people.

For you. Your friends.
Your family. Young or old.

Go to www.antibiotic-action.com