

Delayed Prescription



Stop, think, choose wisely

Pet's name

Veterinarian's name

Owner's name

Veterinary Practice name and address

Owner's address

Date	Medication	Dose	Frequency	Duration
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>			

Step 1

Follow your veterinarian's advice to help your pet feel better without antibiotics, and continue to **monitor symptoms** over the next few days.

To help your pet's symptoms:

- Keep your pet at a comfortable temperature
- Ensure access to plenty of fresh water
- For gastrointestinal signs: offer a diet as recommended by your vet
- For cats with urinary signs: monitor urination closely

Other: _____

Step 2

If your pet hasn't improved in ___ days, or if things get worse, go ahead and pick up the medication from our clinic.*

If your pet has improved, they do not need antibiotics.

For more info, please visit vetantibiotics.fvas.unimelb.edu.au



***Prescription valid for 7 days.**

Medication can only be collected from the veterinary practice that examined your pet.



Not every infection needs to be treated with antibiotics

Many infections are caused by viruses, not bacteria, so antibiotics won't help. Many bacterial infections get better *just as quickly* without antibiotics.

It's important that we only use antibiotics when they are really needed.

Antibiotics can:

- cause side effects for your pet, such as diarrhoea and vomiting
- kill your pet's good bacteria and increase the risk of other infections
- cause some bacteria to become resistant to the antibiotic, so that the antibiotic no longer works

Antibiotic-resistant bacteria can spread from humans to animals, and animals to humans. So being careful with antibiotics in both humans and pets is important for the health of your ***whole family***.

Common condition	Bacteria	Virus	Recovery time	Are antibiotics needed?
Draining cat abscess	Yes		2-4 days	No
Cat flu	Maybe	Yes	2-3 weeks	Maybe
Feline urinary disease	Maybe		2-7 days	Rarely
Kennel cough	Yes	Yes	10-14 days	No
Ear infection	Yes		1-4 weeks	Topical
Diarrhoea/vomiting	Maybe	Maybe	3-7 days	Rarely
Skin Infection	Maybe ^a		2-4 weeks	Maybe (topical) ^b

^aalso yeast or fungus

^bTopical antibacterial therapy considered first choice

Recovery time is an indication of the time in which most cases will resolve, not the time frame for improvement. If your animal's condition is getting worse, or you have other concerns, please contact your veterinarian.