

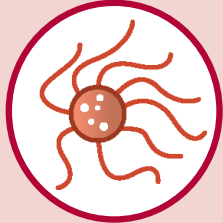
# Antimicrobials: a simple overview

**Antimicrobials** are medicines used to prevent and treat infections caused by microorganisms in humans, animals and plants

An antimicrobial drug works against **only one** type of organism

**Antimicrobial Resistance:** when the microorganisms change or mutate over time and get to a point where they no longer respond to medicines previously used to treat them

Prevent or treat infections caused by **bacteria**

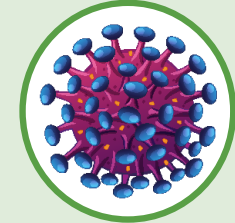


such as cellulitis, urinary tract infection, tuberculosis (TB), sexually transmitted infections (STIs) like gonorrhoea

**Antibiotics**  
(also known as antibacterials)

**Antivirals**

Prevent or treat infections caused by **viruses**



such as HIV, flu, chickenpox/shingles or COVID-19

Prevent or treat infections caused by **fungi**

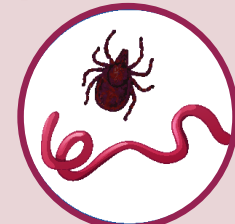


such as thrush, ring worm and athlete's foot

**Antifungals**

**Antiparasitics**

Prevent or treat infections caused by **parasites**



such as malaria, threadworm and headlice

**RESIST**

[www.antibioticprescribing.ie](http://www.antibioticprescribing.ie)

