



Messaging accompanying issue 15 of green/red reports

March 2023

Since Issue 10 this report has included the rate of antibiotic prescribing.

What does it mean if your rate is 200?

- This is defined as 200 antibiotic prescriptions per 100 GMS patients for 12 consecutive months.
- This means that, on average, each of your GMS patients received two antibiotic prescriptions over that 12 month period.
- In reality, there will be some patients that did not get any antibiotic prescriptions over the course of the year and some that received several.
- For instance, a patient that is on ongoing UTI antibiotic prophylaxis may receive up to 12 antibiotic prescriptions in the year.

Guidance to support deprescribing of UTI antibiotic prophylaxis is available on www.antibioticprescribing.ie.

Practice Point:

All patients on antibiotic prophylaxis for recurrent UTI should be reviewed after 3-6 months with a view to stopping. There is no evidence of any additional benefit from such prophylaxis beyond 3-6 months. There is significant evidence of harm.