

# WHAT OUR PATIENTS KNOW ABOUT ANTIBIOTICS AND ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE. ARE THEY AWARE OF HOW TO MAKE GOOD USE OF THEM?

Herrera-Expósito M<sup>1</sup>, Martos-Rosa A<sup>1</sup>, Aznar-García M<sup>1</sup>, Pinto-Nieto CM<sup>2</sup>, Castro-Vida MA<sup>1</sup>.

1. Hospital de Poniente, El Ejido (Almería). Hospital Pharmacy Service 2. Hospital de Guadix, Guadix (Granada). Hospital Pharmacy Service  
Contact: [macarena.herrera@ephpo.es](mailto:macarena.herrera@ephpo.es)

## BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

Antimicrobial resistance is the ability of microorganisms to evade antibiotics. The use and abuse of these drugs has increased, also the number of resistant microorganisms. Rational use of antibiotics with health education are fundamental tools to avoid resistance problems.

## AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- To assess the degree of knowledge of population about the correct use of antibiotics, antimicrobial resistance.
- Detect irrational uses.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

- Descriptive, observational and cross-sectional study through patient surveys.
- Carried out on the European Day of the Prudent Use of Antibiotics (November 18, 2019)
- Questions with answers in YES/NO format and multi-response.
- Leaflets from the World Health Organization on the prudent use of antibiotics were distributed
- Key concepts in antibiotic-related health education were explained.

## RESULTS

Men: 38%  
Women: 62%

- <30 years old: 30,76%
- 31-59 years old: 53.84%
- >60 years old: 15.38%

48.72% had antibiotics at home.

25.64% bought antibiotics without a medical prescription.

89.74% were aware that not all antibiotics have the same indication.

35.90% abandoned the treatment when they experienced improvement.

71.79% stated to know the consequences of taking antibiotics incorrectly.

69.23% considered that more general information about antibiotics is necessary

84.62%

Had taken antibiotics recommended by healthcare professional

7.70%

Had taken antibiotics on their own initiative

7.70%

Do not remember who recommended it

64.10% had heard about antimicrobial resistance

2.56% → They are the ability of antibiotics to fight infection

61.54% → They are the ability of microorganisms to resist the action of antibiotics

35.90% → Were unaware of what they are

## CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

- Many patients claim to know the indications and consequences of antibiotic misuse but they make reckless use of them.
- It is a priority to spend time doing interventions to achieve better results in the future and thus reduce resistance rates and the possible associated problems that these entail.