Antibiotic resistance has become an issue as fewer options for treating resistant diseases are available. We realized there was an issue with the abuse of antibiotics, so we created a survey and sent it to the undergraduate class to evaluate the extent. We found that the primary issue is a lack of knowledge about the difference between bacterial diseases and viral diseases.

When a patient is treated with antibiotics, all bacteria (good and bad) die, while those with resistance spread. These bacteria which have ways of coping with antibiotics then spread their resistance to others. Governments have developed agencies like the CDC to educate the public on the proper use of antibiotics after MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus) became a huge issue in public hospitals.

Reduce the misuse of prescription antibiotic medicine.

The largest issue is that people don’t understand the difference between illnesses caused by viruses and those caused by bacteria.

People need to be educated about the difference between bacteria and viruses so that they do not take antibiotics when they have a disease caused by a virus.

These results prove that there is need for education about antibacterial resistance. It is important to teach people not to use antibiotics when sick with a virus because it will contribute to antibacterial resistance.

If you were issued a prescription, did you take it for the full time recommended by your doctor?
- Yes
- No
- I have never been issued a prescription for antibiotics

Have you ever taken antibiotics when you’ve had the flu, cold or other virus?
- Yes
- No
- I have never taken antibiotics

References