Antibiotic Resistance
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OVERVIEW

NEED: Educate WPI students about the proper use of antibiotics and antibiotic resistance

APPROACH: Survey WPI students to prove the need for education about antibiotic resistance, and educate them about proper usage

SURVEY

GOALS:
• To understand when and how students use antibiotics
• To prove students need further education about antibiotic usage

DETAILS:
• Based on a survey of 451 undergraduate students
• Of these students, 91.1% or 411 students have taken antibiotics

CONCLUSIONS
• Over 40% of students who did not complete the full course reused antibiotics
• Of the nearly 60% of students that believe antibiotics are over prescribed, 1/3 have requested antibiotics from their physician.
• Over 50% of students who know that antibiotics only affect bacteria have used antibiotics to treat non-bacterial infections.
• Less than 60% of students who defined antibiotic resistance had the proper definition.

REFERENCES

BACKGROUND

• Mass-production of Penicillin, the first antibiotic, began in 1943
• Just 4 years later, bacteria began to develop resistance
• More than 1/2 the antibiotics used in hospitals are not needed or are given in incorrect doses
• Almost 50% of pediatricians feel pressured into prescribing antibiotics
• Of that group, about 1/3 prescribe these unneeded antibiotics

CONCLUSIONS

PLAN OF ACTION

Present poster and pass out information on the importance of preventing antibiotic resistance

Increase awareness about antibiotic misuse
• Do not pressure your doctor for antibiotics
• Never reuse antibiotics

Dispel misconceptions surrounding antibiotics
• Should not be used for viral-based illnesses
• Full regimen of prescribed antibiotics must be completed