

COMMON ANTIBIOTICS MYTHS BUSTED



**SUPERHEROES
AGAINST SUPERBUGS**

MYTH

Antibiotics are just "Strong Injections" needed for any sudden illness.

Hello Dr. Anjali, can you please give me that strong injection that makes my cows recover quickly?

FACT

Jaswinder ji, those are antibiotics. They aren't magic pills for every illness. They only treat bacterial infections - nothing else. When used carelessly, they actually make things worse by creating 'superbugs' - bacteria so tough they stop responding to antibiotics. That's why getting the right diagnosis matters before giving those injections.

MYTH

Prophylactic use is necessary to prevent future disease.

Medicine is necessary to protect the cow, so that she doesn't get sick in the future.

FACT

This actually raises the risk of creating 'superbugs'. These cause infections that no longer respond to medicine. The best way to keep your cow healthy is through vaccines, good hygiene on the farm, and proper nutrition. Antibiotics should only be used for confirmed illness and under a qualified veterinarian's guidance.

MYTH

Stopping treatment early
saves medicine and money
once the animal looks better.

I've given half the antibiotic dose
and now my cow is fine. Why
waste more medicine?

FACT

That's actually a big reason bacterial
infections like *mastitis* are
becoming harder to kill. Stopping
early kills only the weak bacteria,
letting the strong ones survive,
adapt, and multiply. So always finish
the prescribed course that I give, or
the infection may come back
stronger.

MYTH

Ignoring the milk withdrawal period is fine; discarding milk is just a big financial loss.

Why should I throw away the milk? The cow looks perfectly fine and who's going to cover the loss from two days of milk?

FACT

It's important to follow the withdrawal period after giving antibiotics. Milk from treated animals can contain antibiotic traces, which, if consumed, may cause allergies, harm the good bacteria in our gut, and make disease-causing germs harder to treat in the future.

MYTH

Boiling milk removes all antibiotic residues, making it safe to drink immediately after treatment.

If we boil the milk, the antibiotics will be destroyed, right?

FACT

Boiling doesn't remove all antibiotic residues; some can still remain and contribute to antibiotic resistance. Following the proper withdrawal period is the only reliable way to make sure the milk is safe and free of harmful traces.

After all, would you want antibiotics ending up in someone's glass of milk?

MYTH

Biosecurity rules are overhyped; they just add extra work and costs.

Doctor ji, why bother with all these steps? It's just more time and money!

FACT

We know life on the farm is busy and it can be tempting to skip precautions. But this can lead to more illness, even death, in your animals, faster disease spread, and extra antibiotic use that fuels 'superbugs'.

A few simple steps to stop infections protect your herd and cost less than treating sickness.