

A chainsaw is shown cutting through a cucumber on a wooden cutting board. The chainsaw's blade is dark grey with a silver chain. The cucumber is sliced into several rounds, with one slice being cut by the chainsaw. The background is a blurred blue wall and a person's arm.

# AN ANTIBIOTIC IS THE WRONG TOOL TO TREAT A VIRUS.

Antibiotics are powerful tools. But, as with any powerful tool, it's important to only use them for the right job. Antibiotics treat bacterial infections, not viruses. When they're not needed, antibiotics do more harm than good. So talk with your doctor about the best way to treat your illness.

Learn more about safe antibiotic use at [CDC.gov/antibiotics](https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotics).