

# ANTIBIOTICS: TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING?

Antibiotic use in Manitoba is higher than it should be, and the wrong ones are sometimes being prescribed

While antibiotics help fight infections and save lives every day, they can cause harm if used the wrong way

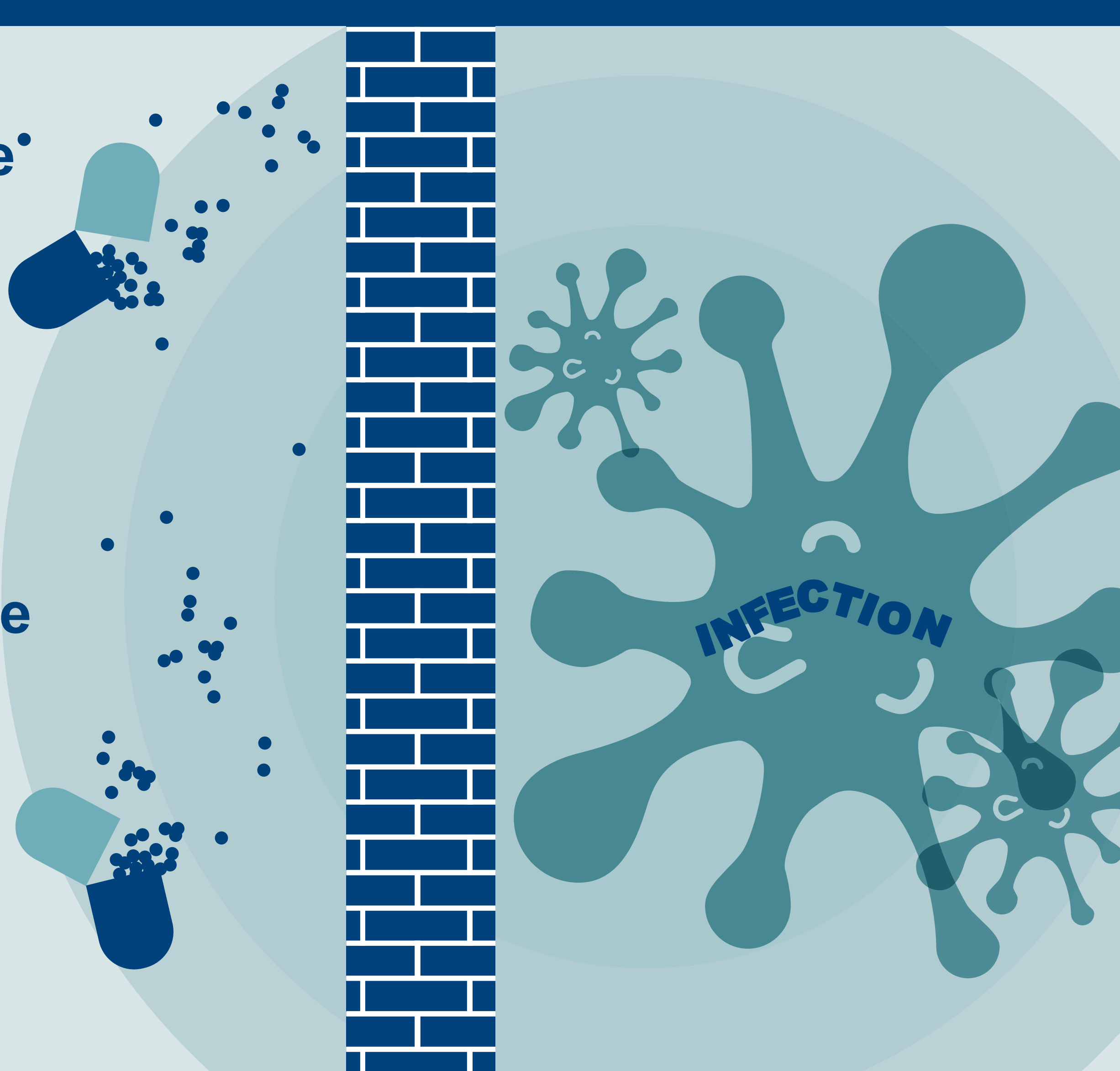


## Antibiotic Resistance

Happens when bacteria become able to resist the antibiotics designed to kill them, making infections harder to treat

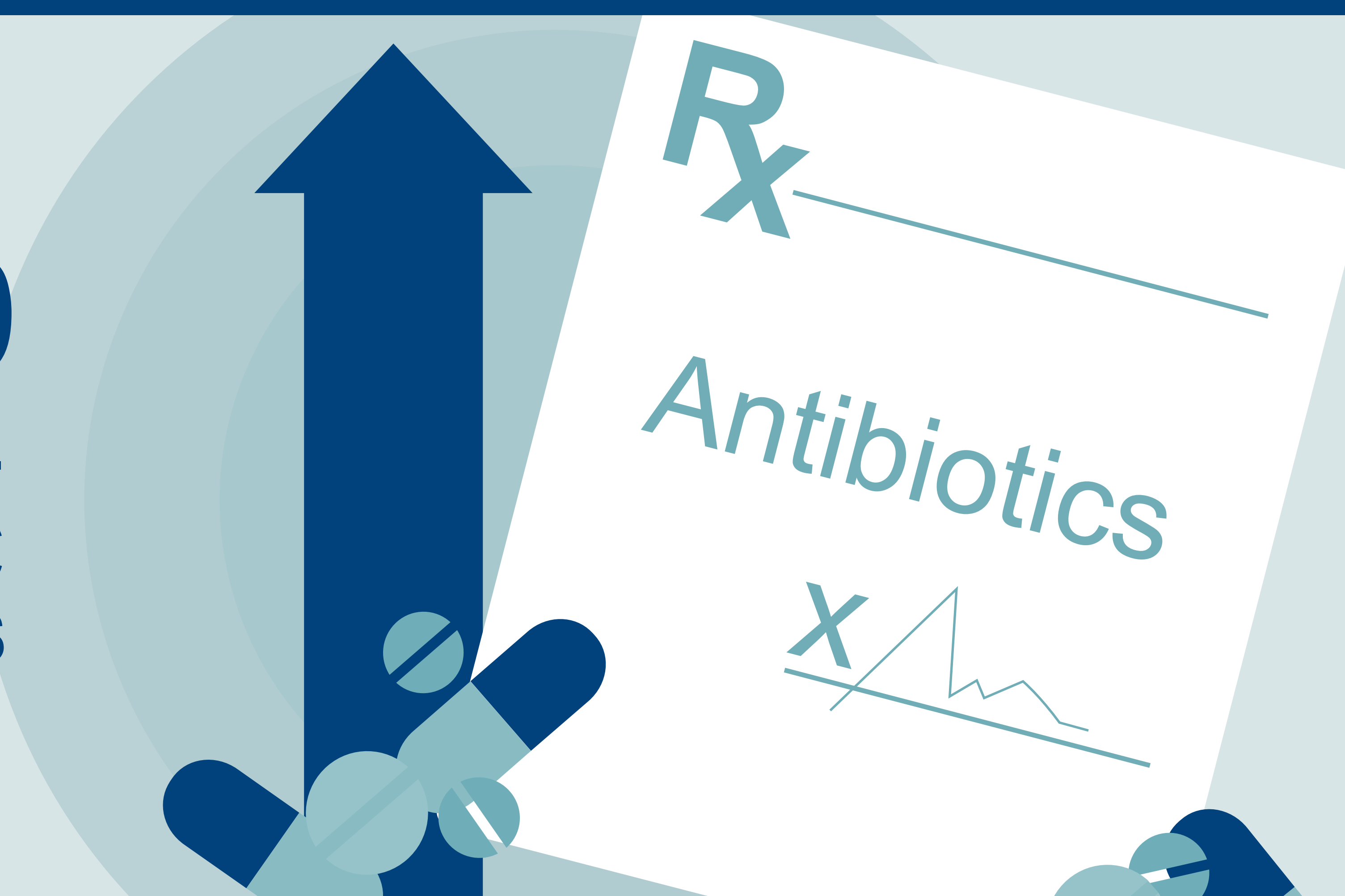
Occurs more when antibiotics are over-used, or the wrong type of antibiotic is prescribed

May cause people to become more ill or even die



## Antibiotic Use in Manitoba between 2011 and 2016

**67,000**  
— MORE —  
ANTIBIOTIC  
PRESCRIPTIONS



— use for —  
**ILLNESSES**  
— which usually —  
**DON'T NEED**  
**ANTIBIOTICS**  
— like —  
**BRONCHITIS**  
— is —  
**GOING UP**



## How can Unnecessary Antibiotic Prescriptions be Reduced?



Manitobans should try to see their regular doctor



Include everyone who prescribes antibiotics in developing the solution



Focus on conditions, like bronchitis, with the highest rates of misuse



Provide regular audits and feedback to healthcare providers on how their antibiotic prescribing compares to their peers