WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ANTIBIOTICS

Antibiotics save lives. Alongside vaccinations, they added nearly 20 years to life expectancy.

“Since their discovery over seventy years ago, antibiotics have been our leading weapons in the treatment of bacterial infections.”

1 Antibiotics destroy pathogens... but can also eliminate certain beneficial bacteria in our microbiota

2 Diarrhea: the most frequent side effect of antibiotics in the short term

In most cases: Antibiotic-Associated Diarrhea (AAD)

Particular cases: in 10% - 20% of cases, the diarrhea results from an infection by Clostridioides difficile, a bacterium that can become pathogenic due to certain factors

3 Antibiotics treatment is associated with increased susceptibility of several chronic diseases

Metabolic diseases: obesity, diabetes...
Digestive diseases: inflammatory bowel disease, colorectal cancer...
Allergic diseases: asthma, allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis...

Perinatal period: critical window of gut microbiota and immune system development and maturation

Any interference (antibiotics) with this establishment may potentially lead to increased risk of chronic diseases

4 Inappropriate use of antibiotics is responsible for antibiotic resistance. How it happens?

There are lots of bacteria and a few are resistant to antibiotics

The antibiotic-resistant bacteria grow, and take over

Antibiotics eradicate pathogens responsible for infection but can also destroy certain beneficial bacteria

Some bacteria give their antibiotic resistance to other bacteria, causing more problems...

Each year, the WHO organizes the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week, which aims to increase awareness of global antimicrobial resistance.

As an expert on microbiota, the Biocodex Microbiota Institute takes part in this initiative. You will find dedicated content on our website.