

**SELF-MEDICATION WITH ANTIBIOTICS AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT
ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE AMONG NURSING PRACTITIONERS AT A TERTIARY
HEALTHCARE FACILITY IN NORTHERN GHANA: A CROSS-SECTIONAL
SURVEY STUDY.**

Hi, my name is Ismael Niadawe Issaka, and I am a student of public health, University of Southern Denmark. This questionnaire is part of a research project and intends to collect information on self-medication with antibiotics among nurses in the Tamale Teaching Hospital, which is why we would like to kindly ask you to fill in this questionnaire. Participation is entirely voluntary, and consent to participate can be withdrawn at any point in time.

All data will be used exclusively for academic research purposes. Responses are completely anonymous, so please do not write your name on the questionnaire. The completed questionnaire should be dropped in the slit box provided at the nurses' staff common room in the department

Please, before you proceed to respond to the questionnaire, first provide your explicit consent for participation in the study by ticking the respective box below.

Participant's consent Yes [] No [] (please tick as appropriate)

INSTRUCTION: PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS TRUTHFULLY TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE BY TICKING THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE BOX.

Socio-demographic characteristics

Q 1. What is your age?

1. 18-24
2. 25-34
3. 35-44
4. 45-54
5. Above 55

Q 2. What is your gender?

1. Male
2. Female

Q 3. What is your current professional rank?

1. Staff Nurse
2. Senior Staff Nurse
3. Nursing Officer
4. Senior Nursing Officer
5. Principal Nursing Officer
6. Deputy Director of Nursing Service
7. Director of Nursing Service

Q 4. How many years have you worked as a nurse since your graduation from nursing school?

1. Less than 3 years
2. 3 to under 5 years
3. 5 to 10 years
4. More than 10 years

Q 5. Which of the following best describes your household composition?

1. 1 Single adult only
2. 1 Single adult and at least 1 child under 16
3. Married / domestic partnership - adults only
4. Married / domestic partnership and at least 1 child under 16
5. Multiple adults aged 16+ and at least 1 child under 16

Q 6. Do you have a health insurance? (If your response is “No”, please proceed directly to question Q8)

1. Yes
2. No

Q7. Indicate whether it is a national or private health insurance (Only if your response was “Yes” in Q6 above)

1. National health insurance
2. Private health insurance

Self-medication practices

Q 8. Have you ever treated yourself with an antibiotic without a prescription by a medical doctor? (If your response is “No”, please proceed directly to question Q14)

1. Yes
2. No

Q 9. When did you last take an antibiotic without a prescription by a medical doctor?

1. In the last month
2. 2-3 months ago
3. 4-6 months ago
4. 7-12 months ago
5. More than a year ago

Q10. Which antibiotic(s) did you use to treat yourself on that last occasion? (You can tick more than one option, if you used more than one antibiotic on that last occasion)

1. Ampicillin
2. Amoxicillin
3. Ciprofloxacin
4. Amoxicillin/Clavulanic acid
5. Doxycycline
6. Co-trimoxazole
7. Metronidazole
8. Erythromycin
9. Flucloxacillin
10. Azithromycin
11. Ceftriaxone
12. Chloramphenicol
13. Cefuroxime
14. I can't remember

Q11. On that occasion, where did you get the antibiotic(s) from?

1. From the medical store or pharmacy
2. I had them saved up from a previous time
3. From a colleague nurse
4. From a doctor without formal consultation and laboratory sensitivity test
5. From a market stall
6. From a family member or friend
7. Other: Please, write which _____
8. I can't remember

Q12. On that occasion, which conditions did you treat yourself with antibiotics? (You can tick more than one answer)

1. Cold
2. Diarrhoea
3. Flu
4. Cough
5. Fever
6. Menstrual cramps
7. Abdominal pain
8. Sore throat
9. Body pains
10. Genitourinary tract symptoms
11. Skin conditions
12. Other condition; Please, write which: _____
13. Can't remember

Q13. Why did you treat yourself without consulting a doctor? (You can tick more than one answer)

1. I had a busy schedule at work
2. I am familiar with the disease condition and knew what to treat it with
3. The condition was not severe, so it did not require consultation with a doctor
4. I did not want my colleagues to know I was sick
5. Due to long waiting time at consultation with a doctor
6. High cost of consultation and treatment
7. Other reason; Please, write which: _____

Q14. Have you ever managed a patient with antibiotic resistance?

- Yes
 No

Questions about antibiotic resistance

Q15. Self-medication with antibiotics can lead to the development of antibiotic resistance

- True
 False

Q16. Inappropriate prescription practices can lead to antibiotic resistance

- True
 False

Q17. Improper disposal of hospital waste can lead to antibiotic resistance.

- True
 False

Q18. Improper handwashing before and after patient contact can lead to antibiotic resistance.

- True
 False

Please now indicate whether you think the following statements are ‘true’ or ‘false’

Q19. Antibiotic resistance occurs when your body becomes resistant to antibiotics and they no longer work well

True

False

Q20. Many infections are becoming increasingly resistant to treatment by antibiotics

True

False

Q21. If bacteria are resistant to antibiotics, it can be very difficult or impossible to treat the infections they cause

True

False

Q22. Antibiotic resistance is an issue that could affect me or my family

True

False

Q23. Antibiotic resistance is an issue in other countries but not here

True

False

Q24. Antibiotic resistance is only a problem for people who take antibiotics regularly

True

False

Q25. Bacteria which are resistant to antibiotics can be spread from person to person

True

False

Q26. Antibiotic-resistant infections could make medical procedures like surgery, organ transplants and cancer treatment much more dangerous

True

False

Finally, please also respond to the following two questions

Q27. How likely, do you think it is that you will develop a condition with antibiotic resistance at some point in your life?

Highly unlikely (1)	Unlikely (2)	Rather unlikely (3)	Neutral (4)	Rather likely (5)	Likely (6)	Highly likely (7)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q28. How would you grade the severity of such a condition with antibiotic resistance? Please, make this rating on the following scale from 1 to 7. 1 indicates that such a condition would be 'not severe at all', 5 that it would be 'medium severe' and 7 that it would be 'very severe'.

Not severe at all (1)	(2)	(3)	Medium severe (4)	(5)	(6)	Very severe (7)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

End of questionnaire

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS STUDY

(You may contact the following number for enquires: 0501674980)