

**ARIZONA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION**  
**Proposed Resolution**  
**9/98**

**TITLE: ABUSE OF ANTIBIOTICS**

**WHEREAS:** Antibiotic prescriptions have increased steadily since the 1980s

**WHEREAS:** As much as 50% of all antibiotic use is unnecessary

**WHEREAS:** Antibiotics are effective only against bacterial infections

**WHEREAS:** Antibiotics are NOT effective (misused) as a treatment for viruses

**WHEREAS:** Antibiotic misuse (abuse) has created bacterial strains now resistant to many antibiotics

**WHEREAS:** Antibiotic Resistance is rising at an alarming rate

**WHEREAS:** The Arizona Public Health Association considers this a public health crisis

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** Antibiotics be used only to treat bacterial infections

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** When prescribed, antibiotics should be taken as prescribed (complete the course)

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** This information will be shared as widely as possible, by all Public Health Professionals, with providers, patients, and the public in general.

PASSED BY MEMBERSHIP  
ANNUAL MEETING 9/16/98

Pat Zurick  
Executive Secretary