



Antibiotic Resistance

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OVERVIEW

NEED: Educate WPI students about the proper use of antibiotics and antibiotic resistance

APPROACH: Survey WPI students to prove the need for education about antibiotic resistance, and educate them about proper usage

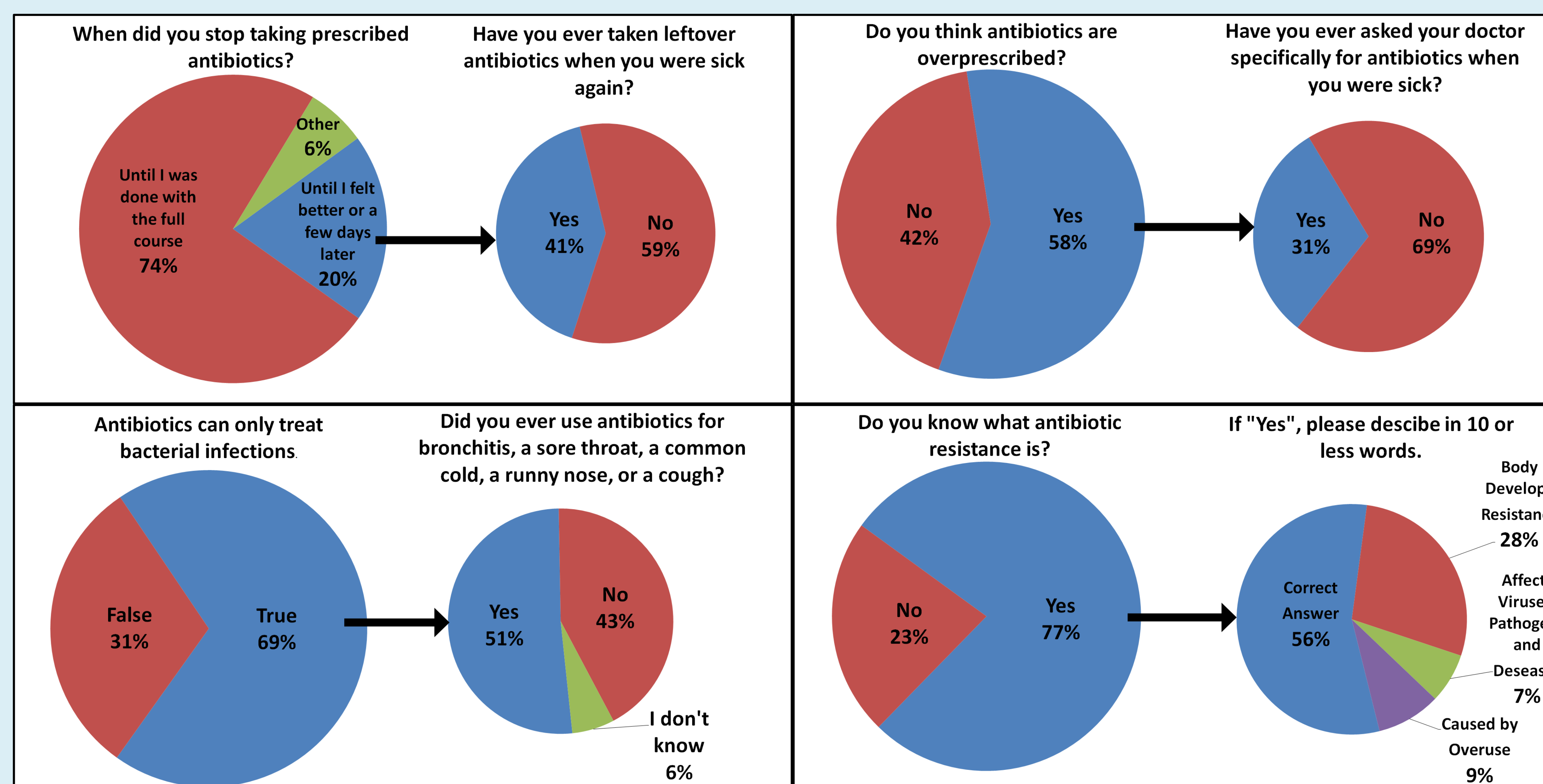
SURVEY

GOALS:

- To understand when and how students use antibiotics
- To prove students need further education about antibiotic usage

DETAILS:

- Based on a survey of 451 undergraduate students
- Of these students, 91.1% or 411 students have taken antibiotics



PLAN OF ACTION

Present poster and pass out information on the importance of preventing antibiotic resistance

Increase awareness about antibiotic misuse

- Do not pressure your doctor for antibiotics
- Never reuse antibiotics

Dispel misconceptions surrounding antibiotics

- Should not be used for viral-based illnesses
- Full regimen of prescribed antibiotics must be completed

BACKGROUND

- Mass-production of Penicillin, the first antibiotic, began in 1943
- Just 4 years later, bacteria began to develop resistance
- More than 1/2 the antibiotics used in hospitals are not needed or are given in incorrect doses
- Almost 50% of pediatricians feel pressured into prescribing antibiotics
- Of that group, about 1/3 prescribe these unneeded antibiotics

CONCLUSIONS

- Over 40% of students who did not complete the full course reused antibiotics
- Of the nearly 60% of students that believe antibiotics are over prescribed, 1/3 have requested antibiotics from their physician.
- Over 50% of students who know that antibiotics only affect bacteria have used antibiotics to treat non-bacterial infections.
- Less than 60% of students who defined antibiotic resistance had the proper definition.

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