**Supplementary Table 2:**Descriptions of the term “antibiotics” in online and printed English dictionaries.

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| **Source** | **Description** |
| Online Only Sources; Accessed 31st October 2018 | |
| Vocabulary.com  <https://www.vocabulary.com/> | A chemical substance derivable from a mold or bacterium that can kill microorganisms and cure bacterial infections |
| MacMillan  <https://www.macmillandictionary.com/> | A drug that cures illnesses and infections caused by bacteria. Doctors often give people a course of antibiotics, when they have to take a fixed amount of medicine each day for several days. |
| Wiktionary  <https://www.wiktionary.org/> | (pharmacology) Any substance that can destroy or inhibit the growth of bacteria and similar microorganisms. |
| Dictionary.com  <https://www.dictionary.com/> | Any of a large group of chemical substances, as penicillin or streptomycin, produced by various microorganisms and fungi, having the capacity in dilute solutions to inhibit the growth of or to destroy bacteria and other microorganisms, used chiefly in the treatment of infectious diseases. |
| The Free Dictionary  <https://www.thefreedictionary.com/> | A substance, such as penicillin or erythromycin, produced by or derived from certain microorganisms, including fungi and bacteria, that can destroy or inhibit the growth of other microorganisms, especially bacteria. Antibiotics are widely used in the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases. |
| YourDictionary  <http://www.yourdictionary.com/> | The definition of antibiotic is a medicine that helps a person or animal heal from an infection by destroying or limiting harmful microorganisms. |
| Urban Dictionary  <https://www.urbandictionary.com/> | A type of drug that was (officially) discovered in 1928 when Sir Alexander Fleming was cleaning out his petri dishes then saw a mold on one of them. He studied it, and noticed that all of the bacteria around the mold had been killed. Now, we use these "wonder drugs" to save people who (over a hundred years ago) would have died a painful death from bacterial infections. Now, unfortunately, they are overused and used when unnecessary, and can lead to antibiotic resistance. Includes penicillin, amoxicillin, streptomycin, neomycin, paromomycin, cefepime, cefprozil, aztreonam, ciprofloxacin, etc. |
| Online version of print sources; Accessed - 27nd October 2018 | |
| American Heritage Dictionary (AHD)  <https://ahdictionary.com/> | A substance, such as penicillin or erythromycin, produced by or derived from certain microorganisms, including fungi and bacteria, that can destroy or inhibit the growth of other microorganisms, especially bacteria. Antibiotics are widely used in the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases. |
| The Chambers Dictionary  [https://chambers.co.uk](https://chambers.co.uk/) | A substance, produced or derived from a micro-organism, that can selectively destroy or inhibit other bacteria or fungi without damaging the host, eg: Penicillin, widely used in the treatment of bacterial infections. |
| Collins English Dictionary  <https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english> | Medical drugs used to kill bacteria and treat infections. |
| New Oxford American Dictionary (NOAD)  [www.oxfordreference.com](http://www.oxfordreference.com) (accessed via the Utrecht University Library) | A medicine (such as penicillin or its derivatives) that inhibits the growth of or destroys microorganisms. |
| Oxford Dictionary of English  [www.oxfordreference.com](http://www.oxfordreference.com) (accessed via the Utrecht University Library) | A medicine (such as penicillin or its derivatives) that inhibits the growth of or destroys microorganisms. |
| Oxford English Dictionary (OED)  <http://www.oed.com/> | One of a class of substances produced by living organisms and capable of destroying or inhibiting the growth of micro-organisms; spec. any of these substances used for therapeutic purposes. Also used of synthetic organic compounds having similar properties. |
| Webster’s Third New International Dictionary  <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary> | A substance produced by or a semisynthetic substance derived from a microorganism and able in dilute solution to inhibit or kill another microorganism. |
| Printed dictionaries | |
| The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language (1992 edition) | A substance, such as penicillin or streptomycin, produced by or derived from certain fungi, bacteria, and other organisms, that can destroy or inhibit the growth of other microorganisms. Antibiotics are widely used in the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases. |
| The Chambers Dictionary (1998 edition) | Inimical to life; inhibiting the growth of another organism, used *esp* of a substance produced by micro-organisms which, in dilute solution, has the capacity to inhibit the growth of, or to destroy, micro-organisms causing infectious diseases; relating to antibiosis. |
| Collins English Dictionary (1998 edition) | Any of various chemical substances, such as penicillin, streptomycin, neomycin, and tetracycline, produced by various microorganisms, esp. fungi, or made synthetically and capable of destroying or inhibiting the growth of microorganisms, esp. bacteria. |
| Concise Oxford English Dictionary (COED)  (2011 edition) | A medicine that inhibits the growth of or destroys microorganisms. |
| New Oxford American Dictionary (NOAD)  (2010) | A medicine (such as penicillin or its derivatives) that inhibits the growth of or destroys microorganisms. |
| The New Oxford American Dictionary  (2001 edition) | A medicine (such as penicillin or its derivatives) that inhibits the growth of or destroys microorganisms. |
| Oxford English Dictionary (OED)  (1989 edition) | Hence as sb., an antibiotic substance: one of a class of substances produced by living organisms and capable of destroying or inhibiting the growth of micro-organisms; spec. any of these substances used for therapeutic purposes. Also used of synthetic organic compounds having similar properties. |
| The New Oxford Dictionary of English  (1998 edition) | A medicine (such as penicillin or its derivatives) that inhibits the growth of or destroys microorganisms. |
| Shorter Oxford English Dictionary (SOED)  (2007 edition) | A substance which is capable of destroying or inhibiting the growth of bacteria or other microorganisms: spec. one that is produced by another microorganism (or is a synthetic analogue of a microbial product) and is used therapeutically. |
| Webster’s Third New International Dictionary  (1976 edition) | A substance produced by a microorganism (as a bacterium or a fungus) and in dilute solution having the capacity to inhibit the growth of or kill another microorganism (as a disease germ). |
| Collins COBUILD Advanced Learner’s English Dictionary (2003 edition) | Antibiotics are medical drugs used to kill bacteria and treat infections. |
| Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary  (2009 edition) | Antibiotics are medical drugs used to kill bacteria and treat infections. |
| The Penguin English Dictionary  (2003 edition) | A substance, such as penicillin, able to inhibit the growth of or kill micro-organisms, esp. bacteria. |
| Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English New Edition (1987 edition) | A medical substance, such as penicillin, that is produced by living things and is able to destroy or stop the growth of harmful bacteria that have entered the body. |
| The Times English Dictionary (2000 edition) | Any of various chemical substances, such as penicillin, streptomycin, neomycin, and tetracycline, produced by various microorganisms, esp. fungi, or made synthetically and capable of destroying or inhibiting the growth of microorganisms, esp. bacteria. |
| Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary  (2008 edition) | A substance produced by or a semisynthetic substance derived from a microorganism and able in dilute solution to inhibit or kill another microorganism. |
| The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language (2000 edition) | A substance, such as penicillin or streptomycin, produced by or derived from certain fungi, bacteria, and other organisms, that can destroy or inhibit the growth of other microorganisms. Antibiotics are widely used in the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases. |