

# IMAGINE

## Viruses or bacteria

### What caused the infection?

Infection	Mean duration of symptoms	Common cause			Are antibiotics recommended?
		Virus	Virus or bacteria	Bacteria	
Common cold	1 week	✓			NO
COVID -19	1-3 weeks	✓			NO
Flu	1-2 weeks	✓			NO
Laryngitis	1 week	✓			NO
Acute bronchitis	3 weeks	✓			NO
Rhinosinusitis	2-3 weeks		✓		SOMETIMES
Sore throat	1 week		✓		SOMETIMES
Ear infection	1 week		✓		SOMETIMES
Exacerbation of COPD	1-2 weeks		✓		SOMETIMES
Pneumonia	1-2 weeks			✓	YES
Urinary tract infection	2-3 days			✓	YES



Antibiotics are only needed  
to treat certain infections  
caused by bacteria

