

# Safe

# Antibiotic

# Pledge

## An Important Message From Your Dentists

Dear Patient,

Understanding how antibiotics work as part of your dental treatment is very important. Here are some things to know:

**Antibiotics generally will NOT help in healing your toothache.**

Dental problems can be caused by:

- Tooth decay
- Broken teeth
- Gum disease
- Jaw problems
- Infections, not all of which require antibiotic therapy

If you take antibiotics when you don't need them, they may cause:

- Diarrhea, rashes, or yeast infections
- Bacteria to become resistant, limiting future antibiotic options when you need them

Sincerely,  
*Your Dental Team*

Antibiotics on their own do not remove infection or stop the pain.

**Dental treatment is needed!**

### What can you do as a patient?

Talk with me about the treatment that is best for you.  
Follow the dental plan that we discuss.

*As your health care provider, I will give you the best care possible. I am dedicated to avoiding prescribing antibiotics when they are likely to do more harm than good. If you have any questions, ask me, your dental hygienist, or your pharmacist.*