### \*\*CAHSS

# COMMON PROBLEMS IN HORSES... DO YOU NEED ANTIBIOTICS?



Another day, another scrape - as all horse owners know, minor wounds are very common in horses.

Another common problem horse owners may face is a horse suffering from a runny nose and cough.

What do both these common problems have in common? Most of the time, these common problems do not need antibiotics.

## BE WISE ABOUT USING ANTIBIOTICS IN YOUR HORSE TO PREVENT ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE!



#### WHAT ARE ANTIBIOTICS?

Antibiotics are used to treat infections caused by bacteria.

#### WHAT IS ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE?

Antibiotic resistance is when bacteria develop the ability to resist and defend themselves against the effects of antibiotics.



#### WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN?

This is a growing problem in many different types of animals, including horses. Misuse and overuse of antibiotics leads to resistance, and eventually antibiotics may stop working. Once bacteria become resistant to an antibiotic, the ability to resist antibiotics can be transmit to other bacteria.



#### WHY SHOULD WE BE WORRIED?

Resistant bacteria can transmit from one animal to another, including between horses and people. The spread of antibiotic resistant bacteria can quickly result in treatment failure in cases where antibiotics are needed to treat serious bacterial infections.

EVERYONE HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP, INCLUDING HORSE OWNERS!