

## List of tables

Table S1 shows the socio-demographic characteristics of the participants

Variable	Category	Frequency (n=313)	Percentage
Age (Years)	18-25 years	110	35.6
	25 years and above	199	64.4
Mean, range, and std dev. of age in full years	[Mean=25 years]	[Range =19-53]	[Std. Dev= $\pm$ 3.10]
Gender	Female	102	32.6
	Male	211	67.4
Marital status	Married	24	7.7
	Single	275	87.9
	Separated/Divorced	13	4.2
	Widowed	1	0.3
Religion	Christian	285	91.0
	Muslim	23	7.4
	Others	5	1.6
Level of education	No formal education/Informal	13	4.1
	Primary level	10	3.2
	Secondary level	34	10.9
	Post-secondary	256	81.8
Employment status	Unemployed – student	91	29.3
	Unemployed – not a student	14	4.5
	Informal	134	43.1
	Formal/contract/salary	74	23.1
Monthly income (estimated)	No income	14	4.5
	Less than 200,000	77	24.6
	200,000-500,000	177	56.5
	More than 500,000	45	14.4
Availability of medical insurance	Yes	96	30.7
	No	217	69.3
Form of housing	Own apartment/housing	12	3.9
	Renting/leased apartment	275	89.6
	Other	20	6.5

Table S2 shows the bivariate analyses of individual, household, and health systems factors associated with antibiotic self-medication

Internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication				
Variable	Yes (n =246)(%)	No (n = 64)(%)	cOR (CI at 95%)	P-value
<b>Individual factors</b>				
<b>Age (Years)</b>				
Below 25 years 18-25	71 (28.9%)	39 (61%)	Ref	
25 years and above	175 (71.1%)	24(39%)	10.9 (0.9-29.3)	0.058
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	181(74.6%)	28 (43.8%)	3.8(2.0-6.3)	<0.001
Female	65(26.4%)	36 (56.2%)	Ref	
<b>Marital status</b>				
Married	11(4.5%)	13(20.3%)	0.73(0.2-2.8)	0.642
Single	227(92.3%)	45(70.3%)	4.3 (1.387-13.470)	<b>0.012</b>

Separated	7(2.9%)	6 (9.4%)	Ref	
Widowed	1 (0.3)	0(0%)	Omitted	
<b>Level of education</b>				
Post-secondary	216(87.8%)	39(61.0%)	2.77(0.795-9.643)	0.110
Secondary	14(5.6%)	19(29.7%)	0.37(0.092-1.411)	0.158
Primary	8 (3.3%)	2 (3.1%)	2(0.281-14.198)	0.64
No formal Education	8(3.3%)	4(6.2%)	Ref	
<b>Monthly income (UGX)</b>				
Less than 200,000	51(21.0%)	25 (48.1%)	0.26(0.1-0.7)	<b>0.010</b>
200,000-500,000	153(62.7%)	22(42.4%)	0.87(0.3-2.4)	0.790
More than 500,000	40(16.3%)	5(9.5%)	Ref	
<b>Religion</b>				
Christian	230(93.5%)	52 (81.2%)	4.4 (0.7-32.1)	0.142
Muslim	14 (5.7%)	9(14.1%)	1.6 (0.2-13.1)	0.685
Other	2 (0.8%)	3(4.7%)	Ref	
<b>Availability of Medical Insurance</b>				
No	160 (65.0%)	55 (86.0%)	0.3(0.1-0.6)	<b>0.002</b>
Yes	86 (35.0%)	9(14.0%)	Ref	
<b>Form of employment</b>				
Unemployed/nonstudent	60 (24.5%)	30(47.6%)	0.4 (0.2-0.9)	<b>0.020</b>
Unemployed/student	10 (4.1%)	4(6.3%)	0.5(0.1-0.9)	0.313
Informal employment	116(46.9%)	16(25.4.0%)	1.5(0.7-3.3)	0.348
Formal employment	59 (24.5%)	12 (19.0%)	Ref	
Other	1 (0.4%)	1(1.7%)	Omitted	
<b>Knowledge of antibiotics</b>				
No	3(1.2%)	13 (20.6%)	Ref	
Yes	243(98.8%)	51(79.4%)	21.1(5.8-76.6)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>Individual perception of internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication</b>				
<b>Costly to go to the hospital</b>				
I agree	209 (85.0%)	36 (56.3%)	3.0 (1.5-5.7)	<b>0.001</b>
I do not agree	37(15.0%)	28 (43.7%)	Ref	
<b>Illness did not require to go to a hospital</b>				
I agree	180 (73.2%)	39 (61.0%)	1.1 (0.6 -2.1)	0.734
I do not agree	66 (26.8%)	28 (39.0%)	Ref	
<b>Someone with similar symptoms used the same medication</b>				
I agree	130 (52.9%)	37 (57.8%)	0.6 (0.3-1.0)	0.54
I do not agree	116 (47.1%)	27 (42.2%)	Ref	
<b>I cannot afford hospital charges</b>				
I agree	144 (58.5%)	19 (29.7%)	2.7 (1.5-4.9)	<b>0.002</b>
I do not agree	102 (41.5%)	45 (70.3%)		
<b>No easy access to health worker</b>				
I agree	67 (27.2%)	17 (26.6%)	0.8(0.4- 1.6)	0.583
I do not agree	179 (72.8%)	47 (73.4%)	Ref	
<b>Cost saving</b>				
I agree	78 (31.7%)	36 (56.3%)	1.2 (0.6 -2.4)	0.599
I do not agree	168 (68.3%)	28 (43.7%)	Ref	
<b>Online information is quick and easy to use</b>				
I agree	113 (45.9%)	38 (59.4%)	2.6(1.4-4.9)	<b>0.002</b>
Do not agree	133 (54.1%)	26 (40.6%)	Ref	
<b>Trusted online information without prescription</b>				

I agree	88 (35.8%)	24 (37.5%)	0.7(0.4-1.3)	0.277
I do not agree	158 (64.2%)	40 (62.5%)	<i>Ref</i>	
<b><i>No side effects with Self-Medication from online information</i></b>				
I agree	86 (35.0%)	16 (25.0%)	1.3(0.7-2.4)	0.41
I do not agree	160 (65.0%)	148 (75.0%)	<i>Ref</i>	
<b><i>Online information provides an antibiotic prescription</i></b>				
I agree	94 (38.2%)	21 (32.8%)	1.0(0.5-0.8)	0.997
I do not agree	152 (61.8%)	43 (67.2%)	<i>Ref</i>	
<b><i>I have easy access to online 'google' information</i></b>				
I agree	170(69.1%)	35 (54.7%)	1.2(0.7-2.3)	0.540
I do not agree	76 (30.9%)	29 (45.3%)	<i>Ref</i>	
<b><i>Perceptions about antibiotic self-medication using online information</i></b>				
Good practice	27(11%)	9 (14%)	5.2(1.9-13.9)	<b>0.001</b>
Acceptable practice	199(80.9%)	27(42.2%)	15.0(6.9-32.3)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Not acceptable	20 (8.1%)	28 (43.8%)	<i>Ref</i>	
<b><i>Internet should be used for antibiotic self-medication</i></b>				
No	29(11.8%)	29(45.3%)	<i>Ref</i>	
Yes	217(88.2%)	35(55.7%)	8.7(4.4-16.8)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>Household factors</b>				
<b>Variable</b>	<b>Yes (n=246)(%)</b>	<b>No (n=64)(%)</b>	<b>cOR (CI at 95%)</b>	<b>P value</b>
<b><i>Number of people staying in the same house</i></b>				
Lived alone	59(24.3%)	6(9.4%)	14.5(5.2-40.3)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Two	118(48.6%)	24(37.5%)	7.3(3.5-15.0)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Three	47(19.3%)	6(9.4%)	11.5(4.1-32.3)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
More than three	19(7.8%)	28(43.7%)	<i>Ref</i>	
<b><i>Location of residence</i></b>				
Isolated neighborhood	16(6.6%)	11(17.2%)	0.3(0.1-0.7)	<b>0.004</b>
A rented place with shared facilities	164(67.3%)	32(50%)	<i>Ref</i>	
Stay in a rented place with unshared facilities	64(26.1%)	19(32.8%)	0.7(0.3-1.2)	0.197
<b><i>Distance to the nearest medical center/ Hospital from the household residence</i></b>				
Less than 5 km	117(48%)	40(62.5%)	1.8(0.6-5.1)	0.305
About 5 km	117(48%)	18(28.1%)	3.9(1.3-12.0)	<b>0.018</b>
More than 5 km	10(4%)	6(9.4%)	<i>Ref</i>	
<b><i>Level of education of household head</i></b>				
Primary	9(3.7%)	4(6.8%)	<i>Ref</i>	
Secondary	29(11.9%)	18(28.1)	0.7(0.2-2.7)	0.619
Post-Secondary	206(84.4%)	41 (65.1%)	2.2(0.7-7.6)	0.198
<b><i>Household monthly income (UGX)</i></b>				
Less than 500,000	30(12.4%)	21(35%)	0.7(0.3-1.6)	0.384
500,000-1,000,000	180 (74.7%)	24(40%)	3.6(1.7-7.7)	<b>0.001</b>
More than 1,000,000	31(12.9%)	15(25%)	<i>Ref</i>	
<b><i>Common practice of antibiotic self-medication in household</i></b>				
No	13(5.4%)	33(54.1%)	0.05(0.02-0.1)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Yes	228(94.6)	28(45.9%)	<i>Ref</i>	
<b><i>Beliefs towards antibiotic self-treatment based on online health information</i></b>				
<b><i>One can recover from illness without a doctor's prescription</i></b>				
I agree	221(91.3%)	44(74.6%)	3.6(1.7-7.5)	<b>0.001</b>
Do not agree	21(8.7%)	15(25.4%)	<i>Ref</i>	

<b>One can read online health information to get prescription</b>				
I agree	197 (81.1%)	28(49.1%)	4.4(2.4-8.2)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
I do not agree	46(18.9%)	29(50.9%)	Ref	
<b>One can read online health information to heal without a prescription from a doctor</b>				
I agree	131(54.4%)	34(58.6%)	0.8(0.5-1.5)	0.558
No Agree	110 (45.6%)	24(41.4%)	Ref	
<b>One can self-medicate using online information before seeing a doctor</b>				
I agree	95(39.4%)	25(43.1%)	0.9(0.5-1.5)	0.607
No Agree	146(60.6%)	33(56.9%)	Ref	
<b>Can use online health information to self-medicate and only see a doctor with serious illness</b>				
I agree	99(41.1%)	27(46.6%)	0.8(0.5-1.4)	0.449
Not Agree	142(58.9%)	31(53.4%)	Ref	
<b>Self-Medication using online information can be used to treat family members</b>				
I agree	100(41.5%)	27(45.8%)	0.8(0.5-1.5)	0.552
I do not agree	141(58.5%)	32(54.2%)	Ref	
<b>Family members have medical insurance</b>				
Yes	27(12.2%)	9(14.8%)	1.4(0.7-3.1)	0.446
No	214(88.8%)	52 (85.2)	Ref	

**Health system factors**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Yes (n=246) (%)</b>	<b>No (n=64)(%)</b>	<b>cOR (CI at 95%)</b>	<b>P value</b>
<b>Access to a medical center/Hospital/Pharmacy</b>				
Nearest to residence	83(34.4%)	24(39.3%)	3.3(0.2-57.4)	0.387
Nearest to workplace	60(24.9%)	12(19.7%)	5(0.3-85.6)	0.267
Nearest to both workplace & residence	97(40.2%)	24(39.3%)	4.0(0.2-66.9)	0.330
Other	1(0.5%)	1(1.7%)	Ref	
<b>Distance to the nearest medical center/ Hospital from your residence/workplace</b>				
Less than 5 km	119(49.6%)	46(74.2%)	2.6(0.6-10.8)	0.192
About 5 km	117(48.8%)	12(19.4%)	9.8(2.2-44.0)	<b>0.003</b>
More than 5 km	4(1.6%)	4(6.4%)	Ref	
<b>Quality of services at the nearest medical center/ Hospital from your residence/workplace</b>				
Poor quality	52 (21.8%)	12(20.0%)	2.9(0.7-11.9)	0.141
Good quality	181(75.7%)	44(73.3%)	2.7(0.7-10.1)	0.130
Other	6(2.7%)	4(6.7%)	Ref	
<b>The attitude of health workers at the nearest medical center/ Hospital from your residence/workplace</b>				
Negative	96 (40.5%)	14(23.0%)	10.3(1.6-67.1)	<b>0.015</b>
Positive	139(58.6%)	44(72.1%)	4.7(0.8-29.3)	0.094
Other	2(0.9%)	3(6.7%)	Ref	
<b>Drug shops/pharmacies near you give antibiotics without a prescription</b>				
No	14(5.9%)	20(32.3%)	0.1(0.1-0.3)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Yes	224(94.1%)	42(67.7%)	Ref	
<b>Medical workers at the nearest medical center/ Hospital explain adequately the antibiotics medication one is given</b>				
yes	142(59.7%)	35(57.4%)	0.3(0.1-0.9)	<b>0.028</b>
No	35(14.7%)	21(34.4%)	0.1(0.04-0.4)	
I don't know	61(25.6%)	5(8.2%)	Ref	
<b>Medical workers use online health information only to diagnose your illness</b>				
Yes	112 (47.1%)	12(19.4%)	3.3(1.6-6.8)	<b>0.002</b>
No	46(19.3%)	22(35.5%)	0.7(0.4-1.4)	0.358
I don't know	80(33.6%)	28(45.1%)	Ref	
<b>Ever change the dosage of antibiotics after a prescription by a medical worker secondary to online health information</b>				

Yes	152(65.2%)	23(38.3%)	3.1(1.7-5.6)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
No	78(33.5%)	37(61.7%)	Ref	
other	3(1.3%)	0	omitted	

*Variables whose p-values are indicated in bold are less than 0.05, and therefore showed a statistical association with the outcome variable.*

Table S3 shows multivariate analyses of individual, household, and health systems factors associated with antibiotic self-medication

<b>Internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication</b>				
<b>Variable</b>	<b>cOR (CI at 95%)</b>	<b>P value</b>	<b>aOR (CI at 95%)</b>	<b>P value</b>
<b>Individual factors associated with Internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication</b>				
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	3.6(2.0-6.3)	<0.001	4.1(1.7-9.8)	0.001
Female	Ref		Ref	
<i>Marital status</i>				
Married	0.7(0.2-2.8)	0.642		
Single	4.3(1.4-13.5)	0.012	12.6(3.8-41.8)	<0.001
Separated/divorced	Ref		Ref	
<i>Monthly income (UGX)?</i>				
Less than 200,000	0.3(0.1-0.7)	0.010	0.7(0.2-0.9)	0.658
200,000-500,000	0.9(0.3-2.4)	0.790	1.4(0.1-20.6)	0.810
More than 500,000	Ref		Ref	
<i>Availability of a medical insurance</i>				
No	0.3(0.1-0.7)	0.002	1.33(0.4-4.8)	0.657
Yes	1.000		Ref	
<i>Knowledge of antibiotics</i>				
No	Ref		Ref	
Yes	21.1(5.8-76.6)	<0.001	15.2(1.2-117.0)	<b>0.009</b>
<i>Form of employment</i>				
Unemployed/nonstudent	0.4 (0.1-0.9)	0.020	0.5(0.3-8.7)	0.667
Unemployed/student	0.51(0.1-0.9)	0.313	1.4(0.5-4.5)	0.533
Informal employment	1.4(0.7-3.3)	0.348	4.6(0.6-33.2)	0.133
Formal employment	Ref		Ref	
other	Omitted			
<i>Individual perception of internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication</i>				
<i>Costly to go to the hospital</i>				
I agree	2.6(1.5-4.9)	0.002	0.5(0.2-1.2)	0.150
Do not agree	Ref			
<i>Using online information for antibiotic self-medication is quick and easy to use</i>				
I agree	Ref		Ref	
Do not agree	2.6 (1.4 – 4.9)	0.002	4.0 (1.5-11.1)	<b>0.007</b>
<i>Perception about using online information for antibiotic self-medication</i>				
Good practice	5.2(1.9-13.9)	0.001	3.7(1.3 -10.4)	0.15
Acceptable practice	15(7.0-32.3)	<0.001	11.3 (4.6-27.3)	<0.001
Not acceptable	Ref		Ref	
<i>Internet should be used for antibiotic self-medication</i>				
No	Ref		Ref	
Yes	8.68(4.483-16.802)	<0.001	3.60(1.087-11.940)	<b>0.036</b>

<b>Household factors associated with Internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication</b>				
<b><i>People staying in the same house</i></b>				
I live alone	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
Two people	0.2(0.2-1.3)	0.152	0.5(0.2-1.8)	0.309
Three people	0.8(0.2-2.6)	0.709	0.4(0.3-7.1)	0.699
More than three	0.1(0.02-0.2)	<0.001	0.1(0.03-0.4)	<b>0.001</b>
<b><i>Location of a residence</i></b>				
Isolated neighborhood	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
The rented place with shared facilities	3.523(1.496-8.293)	0.004	3.21(0.729-14.148)	0.123
Rented facilities with unshared facilities	2.315(0.920-5.827)	0.074	3.050(0.496-18.731)	0.223
<b><i>Household monthly income (UGX)</i></b>				
Less than 500,000	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
500,000-1,000,000	5.3(2.6-10.6)	<0.001	2.2(0.6-8.8)	0.250
More than 1,000,000	1.4(0.6-3.3)	0.384	1.7(0.3-8.0)	0.501
<b><i>Common practice of antibiotic self-medication in a household</i></b>				
No	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
Yes	20.7(9.7-43.9)	<0.001	7.1(2.1-24.7)	<b>0.002</b>
<b><i>Household beliefs towards antibiotic self-medication based on online health information</i></b>				
<b><i>One can read information online and obtain a medical worker's prescription</i></b>				
I agree	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
Not Agree	0.2(0.1-0.4)	<0.001	0.8(0.3-2.0)	0.657
<b><i>One can recover from the illness without a doctor's prescription</i></b>				
I agree	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
Do not agree	0.3(0.1-0.6)	0.001	0.2(0.04-0.6)	<b>0.004</b>
<b><i>Health system factors associated with Internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication</i></b>				
<b><i>Distance to the nearest medical center/ Hospital from your residence/workplace</i></b>				
Less than 5 km	<i>Ref</i>			
About 5 km	2.2(1.2-4.1)	0.011	4.6(1.5-14.5)	<b>0.009</b>
More than 5 km	0.6(0.2-1.7)	0.305	0.9(0.1-4.8)	0.964
<b><i>The attitude of health workers at the nearest medical center/ Hospital from your residence/workplace</i></b>				
Negative	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
Positive	0.5(0.2-0.9)	0.020	0.8(0.3-2.1)	0.675
Other	0.1(0.01-0.6)	0.015	0.1(0.01-1.6)	0.110
<b><i>Drug shop/pharmacy nearer gives antibiotics without a prescription</i></b>				
No	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
Yes	7.6(3.6-16.3)		7.1 (1.8-28.1)	<b>0.005</b>
<b><i>Medical workers at the nearest medical center/Hospital explain adequately the antibiotics medication given for the illness</i></b>				
yes	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
No	0.4(0.2-0.8)	0.008	0.3(0.09-0.8)	<b>0.024</b>
I don't know	3.0(1.1-8.0)	0.028	0.5(0.1-2.4)	0.381
<b><i>Medical workers use online health information only to diagnose your illness</i></b>				
Yes	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
No	0.2(0.1-0.5)	<0.001	0.4(0.1-2.3)	0.431
I don't know	0.3(0.1-0.6)	0.002	2.1(0.5-8.8)	0.312
<b><i>Ever changed the dosage of antibiotics after a prescription by a medical worker secondary to online health information</i></b>				
Yes	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
No	0.3(0.2-0.6)	<0.001	1.9(0.6-6.3)	0.291

Variables whose p-values are indicated in bold are less than 0.05, and therefore showed a statistical association with the outcome variable.

## APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE

Section A: Socio-demographic questions	
What is your place of residence? Village/cell/ward/LC1	
What is your place of work/office/school or institution (if student)? Village/Cell/ward/LC1	
What is your gender?	Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/>
What is your age in years?	
What is your religion?	Christian <input type="checkbox"/> Muslim <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) .....
What is your marital status?	Married <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Separated/Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/>
What is your highest level of education?	No formal education/Informal <input type="checkbox"/> Primary level <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary level <input type="checkbox"/> Post-secondary <input type="checkbox"/>
What is your form of employment	Unemployed <input type="checkbox"/> Student <input type="checkbox"/> Informal <input type="checkbox"/> Formal/contract/salary <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) .....
What is your monthly income (Ugandan Shillings)?	Less than 200,000 <input type="checkbox"/> 200,000 – 500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 500,000 <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have medical insurance?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Which form of housing do you reside in?	Own apartment/housing <input type="checkbox"/> Renting/leased apartment <input type="checkbox"/>
Section B: Determining the prevalence of Internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication	
Do you know what antibiotics are?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
What are antibiotics used for? (check more than one if applicable)	Viral infection e.g. COVID-19 <input type="checkbox"/> Common cold <input type="checkbox"/> Bacterial infection e.g. Urinary Tract Infection <input type="checkbox"/> Upper Respiratory Tract Infection <input type="checkbox"/> Sepsis <input type="checkbox"/> Any infection <input type="checkbox"/> Others(specify) ..... .....
Are antibiotics good for the common cold?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Have you had any illnesses in the last year?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever used online health information regarding any illness in the past year?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If yes in above, did that illness require you to use antibiotics?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
If YES in the above, did you use any antibiotics?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> No
If YES in the above, were the required antibiotics prescribed by the medical worker?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If No in above, how did you acquire the knowledge on self-treating with Antibiotics?	Bought from a drug shop: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Shared with a relative at home: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Shared with a friend: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Internet 'google' <input type="checkbox"/> Other specify.....
Have you ever used online health information to self-treat with antibiotics?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>



<p>Kindly rate the frequency of use on your source of information for antibiotics you used in the past 1 year.</p>	<p>Health worker: Always <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Internet/'google'/mobile applications/social media: Always <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Family member: Always <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Friend: Always <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>How many times have you self-medicated with antibiotics in the last year?</p>	<p>Once <input type="checkbox"/> Two times <input type="checkbox"/> Three times <input type="checkbox"/> More than three times <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>How many of those times have you self-medicated in the last year based on online health information only?</p>	<p>Once <input type="checkbox"/> Two times <input type="checkbox"/> Three times <input type="checkbox"/> More than three times <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>What antibiotics do you commonly use while self-medication via the internet?</p>	<p>Co-trimoxazole(Septrin): Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metronidazole (Flagyl): Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Amoxicillin (Amoxyl): Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Azithromycin: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Amoxiclav or Bactoclav (Amoxicillin and clavulanic acid): Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) .....</p>
<p>What type of health information were you able to obtain about the Antibiotic from the internet?</p>	<p>Type of antibiotic to take: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>How many times to take the antibiotic: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>How long to take the antibiotic: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Side effects of the antibiotic: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Antibiotic interactions or effects with other medicines: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>What not to eat/drink while taking antibiotics: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) .....</p>
<p><b>Section C: Assessing the individual factors precipitating Internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication</b></p>	
<p>What prompted you to self-medicate with Antibiotics using online health information? (Individual perception on internet-enabled self-medication)</p>	<p>Costly to go to a hospital: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>My illness did not require me to go to a hospital: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Someone with similar symptoms used the same medication: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I cannot afford the hospital charges: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No access to Health Worker: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Self-Medication using online health information is cost-saving: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p>

	<p>I do not trust prescriptions from the medical workers:  I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Self-medication using online health information is quick and easily used: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Online health information is trustworthy to self-medicate without a prescription: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Self-Medication from the internet as a source has no bad effects: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Online health information provides a prescription and dosage for an illness: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I have easy access to google information:  I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Non-friendly health workers: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Long waiting lines at health facilities:  I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) .....</p>
<p>For which of the following complaint(s) do you use Antibiotics based on online health information only?</p>	<p>Runny nose: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Nasal congestion: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Cough: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sore throat: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Fever: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Aches and pains: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Vomiting: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Pain while passing urine: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Diarrhea: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Skin wounds: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Ear/Eye illness: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Others (specify) .....</p>
<p>How long do you commonly take antibiotics used for self-medication based on online health information only?</p>	<p>1-3 days <input type="checkbox"/> 4-7days <input type="checkbox"/> &gt;7 days <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Did you ever change the dosage of Antibiotics deliberately during self-treatment?</p>	<p>Yes, always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, sometimes <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>If yes in above, did health information online prompt you to change?</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>If Yes above, why did you change the dosage of antibiotics during self-treatment (based on online health information)? (check more than one if applicable)</p>	<p>Improving conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Worsening conditions <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>To reduce adverse reactions/side effects <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Drug insufficient for complete treatment <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Others (specify) .....</p>

Please write down the names of antibiotics you have ever taken for self-medication based on online health information only:	..... ..... .....
When did you normally stop taking antibiotics self-prescribed from the internet in the past 1 year? (check more than one if applicable)	After a few days regardless of the outcome <input type="checkbox"/> After symptoms disappeared <input type="checkbox"/> A few days after the recovery <input type="checkbox"/> After Antibiotics ran out <input type="checkbox"/> After the course/dose <input type="checkbox"/> After consulting a doctor/pharmacist <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) ..... .....
What do you think about self-medication with antibiotics based on online health information for self-health care?	Good practice <input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable practice <input type="checkbox"/> Not acceptable practice <input type="checkbox"/>
Internet should be used for self-medication with antibiotics	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
What was your reason for using the internet for self-medication (check more than one if applicable)	Ease of access <input type="checkbox"/> Trust the source of information <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid consultation fees <input type="checkbox"/> H/W attitude <input type="checkbox"/> 'It is/was not a serious condition <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) ..... .....
<b>Section D: Establishing the household factors related to Internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication</b>	
How many people stay in the same house?	I live alone <input type="checkbox"/> Two <input type="checkbox"/> Three <input type="checkbox"/> >Three <input type="checkbox"/>
How do you describe the location of your residence?	Live in an isolated neighborhood <input type="checkbox"/> Stay in a rented place with shared facilities <input type="checkbox"/> Stay in a rented place with unshared facilities <input type="checkbox"/>
What is the distance to the nearest medical center/ Hospital from your household residence?	Less than 5kilometres <input type="checkbox"/> About 5 kilometers <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 kilometers <input type="checkbox"/>
What is the highest level of education of the household head?	No formal education/Informal <input type="checkbox"/> Primary level <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary level <input type="checkbox"/> Post-secondary level <input type="checkbox"/>
What is the monthly income of the household?	Less than 500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> 500,000 – 1 million <input type="checkbox"/> Above 1 million <input type="checkbox"/>
Is antibiotic self-medication practiced in your household with other members?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
What is the source of information for antibiotic self-medication in your household with other members?	Health worker: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Internet /google/mobile application: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Family member: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Friend: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

	Household head: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) .....
What are your household beliefs towards self-treatment with antibiotics based on online health information?	One can recover from an illness without getting a doctor's prescription: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/> One can read health information online to get a prescription: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/> One can read health information online without getting a prescription from a certified doctor: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/> One can first self-treat via the internet before a visit to a doctor for any illness: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/> One can self-medicate via the internet and only visit a doctor for only a serious illness: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/> When one obtains antibiotics from the internet, they can be used to treat other family members: I agree <input type="checkbox"/> Not agree <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) .....
Do family members have medical insurance?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Section E: Determining the health system factors related to Internet-enabled antibiotic self-medication</b>	
Where is it commonly easier to access a medical center/Hospital/pharmacy?	Nearest to my residence <input type="checkbox"/> Nearest to my workplace <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Others .....
What is the nearest medical center/Hospital to your residence/workplace?	Less than 5kilometres <input type="checkbox"/> About 5 kilometers <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 kilometers <input type="checkbox"/>
What do you think about the access to the nearest medical center/Hospital from your residence/workplace?	It's near <input type="checkbox"/> Far away <input type="checkbox"/> Very far away <input type="checkbox"/>
What do you think about the services at the nearest medical center/Hospital from your residence/workplace?	Poor quality services <input type="checkbox"/> Good quality services <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) .....
What do you think about the attitude of health workers at the nearest medical center/ Hospital from your residence/workplace?	Negative attitude <input type="checkbox"/> Positive attitude <input type="checkbox"/>
Does your nearest drug shop/pharmacy dispense Antibiotics without a doctor's prescription?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
What do you think of the prices of the antibiotics at the nearest medical center/ Hospital?	Affordable <input type="checkbox"/> Not affordable <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you think the medical workers at your nearest medical center/Hospital/medical center are knowledgeable about your illness?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know <input type="checkbox"/>

Do the medical workers at your nearest medical center/Hospital explain adequately the medication you are given for your illness?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
Does the health worker encourage you to search online for health information on your illness?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you think that medical workers use online health information only to diagnose your illness?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know <input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, does this lead you to search online health information to self-medicate with Antibiotics without a prescription from the doctor?	Yes, always <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Did you ever change the dosage of Antibiotics after a prescription by a medical worker secondary to online health information?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) .....
What was the other source(s) of information that prompted you to change antibiotics/dosage of antibiotics after prescription by a medical worker?	Internet/'google': Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Family member: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Friend: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify) .....
What are some of the factors that discourage you from visiting a doctor at your nearest hospital/medical centre? (Choose more than one if applicable)	Consultancy fee <input type="checkbox"/> Costs related to diagnosis/tests/investigations <input type="checkbox"/> Availability of health workers <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of care given <input type="checkbox"/> Available antibiotics for self-treating at the drug shop without a prescription from a doctor <input type="checkbox"/> Available information on the internet for self-diagnosis and treatment <input type="checkbox"/>