



## *H. pylori* Counseling Tips for Pharmacists

- Discuss with your customers any other drugs that they may be taking, even if they are not ulcer medications, and counsel them about possible drug interactions. If they are still concerned, refer them to their physician.
- Impress upon your customers the importance that they **take their medication, as directed, until it is gone** to eradicate *H. pylori* and avoid building antibiotic resistance.
- If your customers experience side effects that make it hard to take their medicine, advise them to speak to their doctor.
- Reassure your customers that **antibiotic treatment is actually cost effective**. Recent research indicates that patients save more money by curing their *H. pylori* infection with antibiotics than they do by treating the symptoms of the ulcer with over-the-counter and other prescription medications.