**CASE – Sore throat:**

A mother and her 6-year-old son present a post-dated prescription for penicillin V syrup 250 mg q.d.s. x 10 days and ask to speak to the pharmacist. The child is irritable, complains of pain when swallowing and appears flushed. The mother is anxious to start antibiotic treatment straight away so that her son can get back to school and she can get back to work, but the prescription is not valid for 3 more days.

**Questions:**

1. What are the first line choice of drugs in treatment of sore throat?
2. How will you find out the type of organism which causes sore throat?
3. What are the causes of sore throat and how are they differentiated?
4. Who is at risk of sore throat and how common is it?
5. How serious is acute throat infection?
6. Are antibiotics effective for the treatment of sore throat and for how long should you treat?
7. When are antibiotics indicated for the treatment of sore throat?
8. What group of drugs does penicillin V belong to and how do they work?
9. What are the side-effects of penicillin V?
10. What are the alternatives to penicillin V for treatment of sore throat?
11. What is the oral bioavailability of penicillin V and what is the impact of administration with food?
12. What are the storage conditions and shelf-life of penicillin V oral solution?
13. What are the disadvantages of prescribing antibiotics for sore throat?
14. How should this patient's mother be counselled regarding the post-dated prescription and symptom relief?
15. Explain the rational use of antibiotics.