

# Acute sinusitis / rhinosinusitis

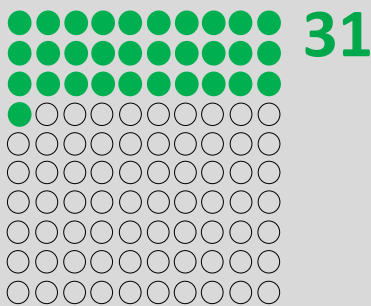
## What causes an acute rhinosinusitis?

Usually caused by viruses (98-99.5%) and less commonly by bacteria (0.5-2%). Starts with an upper respiratory tract infection.

## How long does acute rhinosinusitis last?

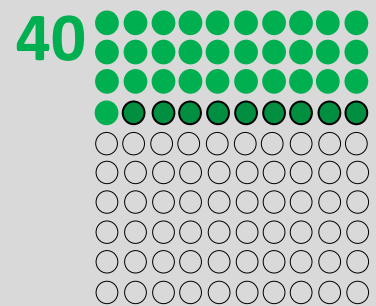
Average duration is 2-3 weeks (whether viral or bacterial). The infection usually resolves within 4 weeks.

100 affected persons who **don't** take antibiotics

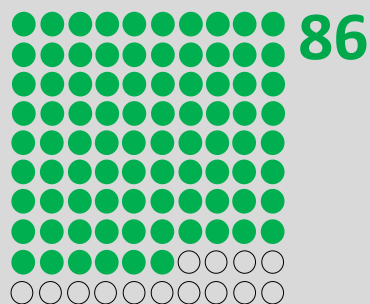


With antibiotics,  
**9 more** people  
out of 100  
will be  
**symptom-free**  
after  
**5 days**

100 affected persons who **do** take antibiotics

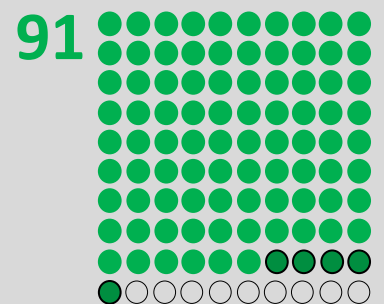


100 affected persons who **don't** take antibiotics

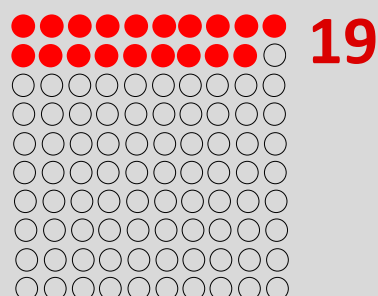


With antibiotics,  
**5 more** people  
out of 100  
will be  
**symptom-free**  
after  
**14 days**

100 affected persons who **do** take antibiotics



100 affected persons who **don't** take antibiotics



**Side effects from antibiotics**  
With antibiotics,  
**8 more** people  
out of 100  
will have symptoms like  
vomiting, diarrhea  
and/or skin rash.

100 affected persons who **do** take antibiotics

