

1	The first antibiotic, penicillin, was discovered about	11
2	seven decades ago. It was not until the forties, however,	23
3	that it could be produced in large enough quantities to be	35
4	used as a drug that could cure bacterial diseases. Other	46
5	wonder drugs emerged, and a golden age of medicine began.	58
6	Before long, however, it was seen that some bacteria	68
7	could withstand these miracle drugs. Many people just do	80
8	not realize that antibiotics fight bacteria, but they do	91
9	not affect a virus. Scientists agree that these miracle	103
10	drugs have been used excessively, and too often they are	114
11	prescribed in error for non-bacterial diseases. The result	126
12	is that at least two dozen kinds of bugs have shown that	138
13	they do have a resistance to at least one of these drugs.	149
14	Many doctors believe that the bugs are winning in the	160
15	war between people and bacteria. Some even think that it	172
16	may be too late to do much about it. Many of the larger	183
17	drug firms appeared to be blind to the problem and cut back	195
18	on their research funding during the eighties. High cost	207
19	is a factor, of course. The total research costs to get a	219
20	drug to market are close to three hundred million dollars.	230
21	Is it too late? Big dollars are now being invested by	242
22	the pharmaceutical firms, and it is likely that newer and	253
23	different antibiotics will arrive on the market in five or	265
24	ten years. A promising breakthrough may be in the use of	277
25	peptide antibiotics; a cream for the treatment of infected	288
26	diabetic foot ulcers may be on the market late next year.	300
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	