**To be amended for study**

*TEXT*: Self-medication

According to the WHO, self-medication is the treatment of certain diseases by patients using authorized medicines, accessible without a prescription, safe and effective, under the conditions of indicated use. This self-medication can be part of a "self-care" defined as the ability of individuals, families and communities to promote health, prevent disease, maintain good health and cope with illness and disability with or without support from a healthcare provider.

In France, self-medication has been defined by the Council of the Order of Physicians as “the use, outside of medical prescription, by people for themselves or for their loved ones and on their own initiative, of medicines considered as such and having received Marketing Authorization, with the possibility of assistance and advice from pharmacists[1]” This definition was retained by the Standing Committee of European Physicians.

Self-medication is also a historical practice and cultural much broader, very ancient and dating back to Antiquity It has experienced a resurgence since the end of the 20th centuries for economic and socio-cultural reasons, posing health, political and philosophical problems.

Self-medication is also mentioned in the veterinary field, either to describe the behavior of the keeper (zoo, breeding, etc.), or, perhaps incorrectly, to describe the capacity of certain animals, generally mammals (sheep, monkeys for example) to ingest products or objects ( earth) or plants (the toothed leaves of monkeys), which treat some of their ailments (parasitism, bacterial or viral infections) Other animal groups such as birds have shown themselves capable of treating themselves (by eating example of clay for parrots)

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