



# The Question:

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Taking part  
in a research study

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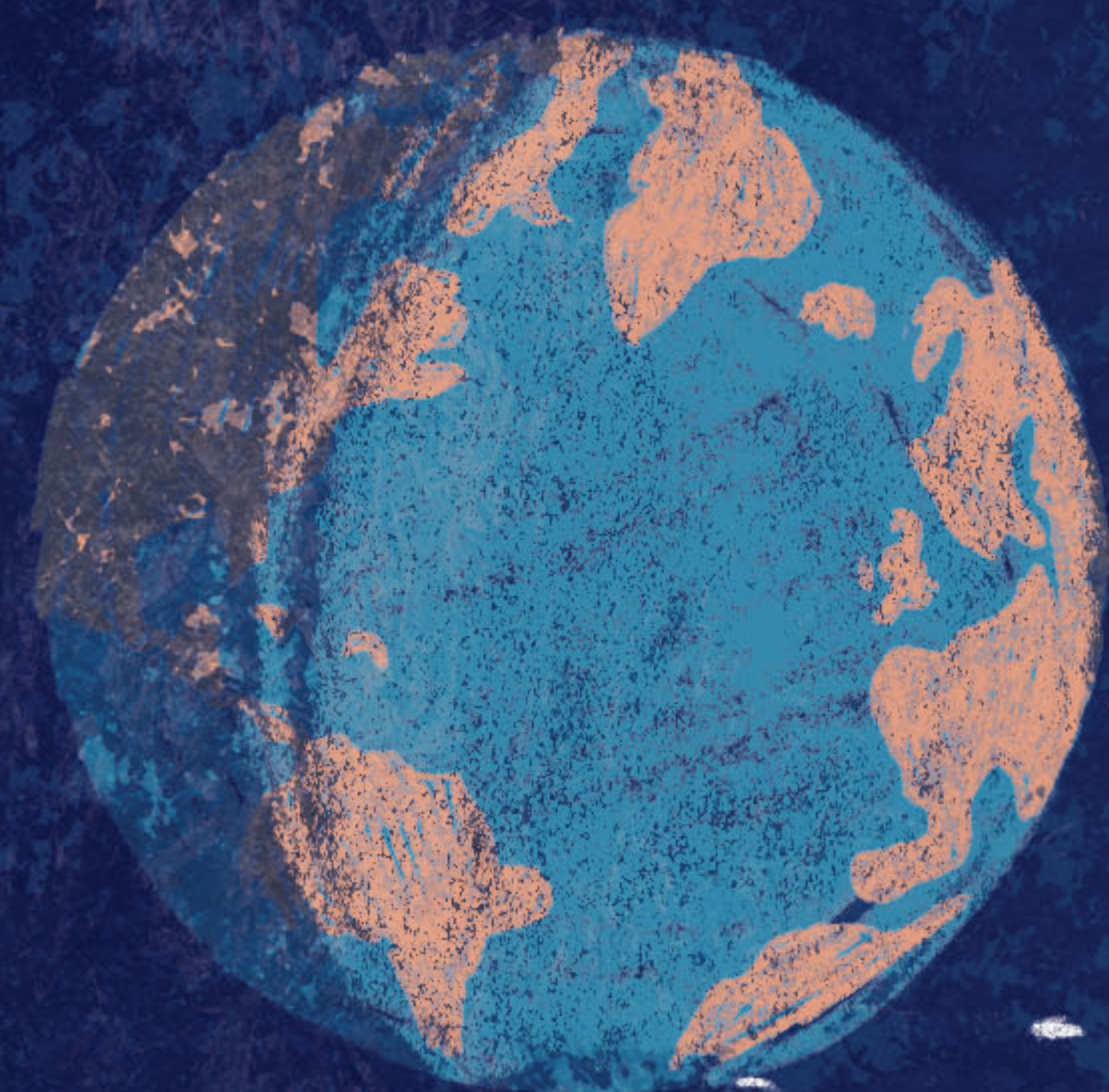
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The world is full of questions  
and people searching for answers...





A surgeon and a doctor had a question;

“What’s the best way to treat a nasty infection of the tummy or the gut?”

“We want our patients to recover quicker.”

“We want to make sure the infection doesn’t come back or flare up somewhere else.”



The surgeon said,

"I normally prescribe antibiotics until I think the patient feels better, which is usually a week or two."



The doctor replied,

"Hmm. I'm not sure I know when the infection is cured so I give everyone a longer course of antibiotics."





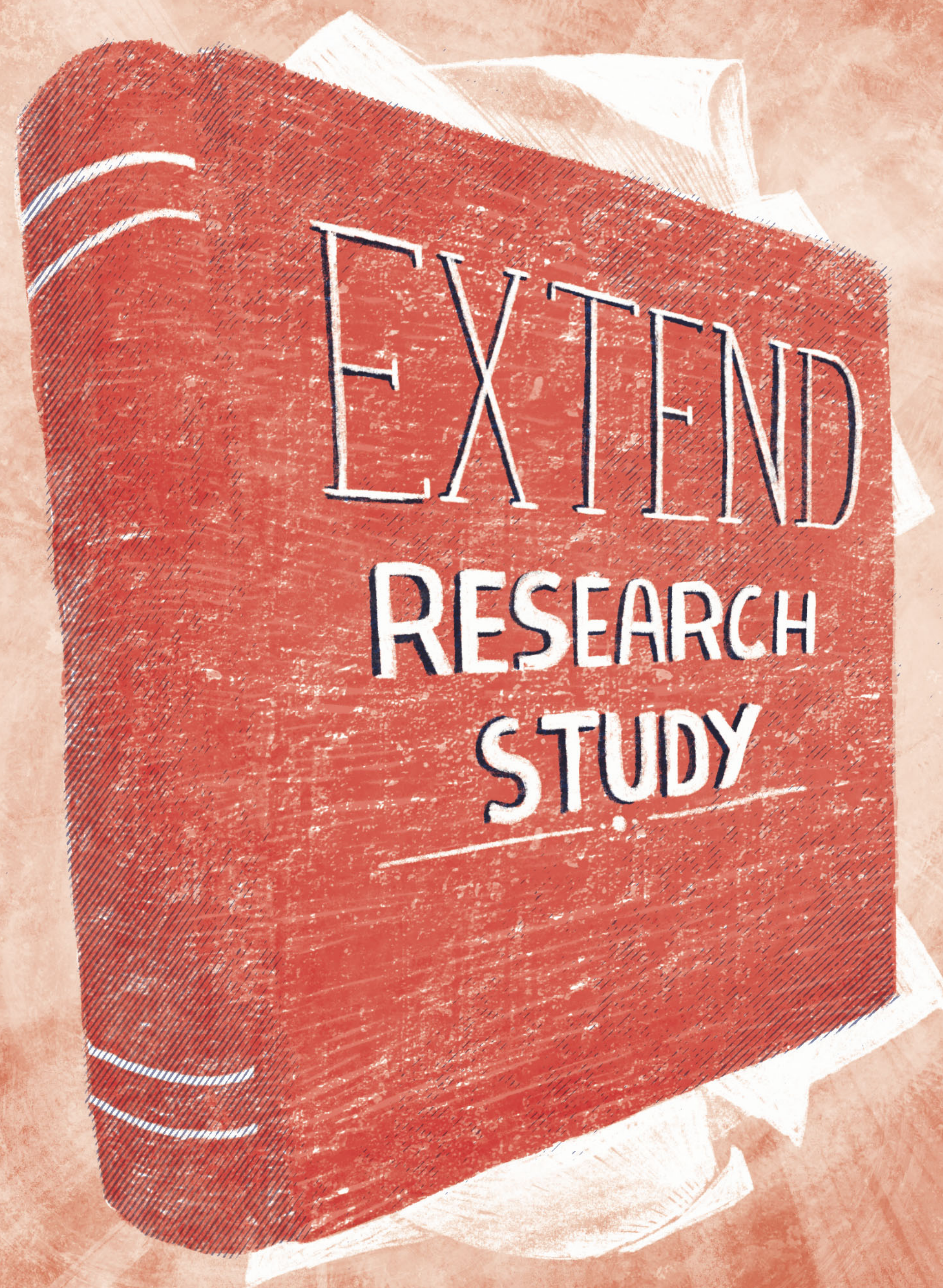
"We need to compare 1-2 weeks to 4 weeks."

"They are both good options but which is best?"

*"A research study  
will help us find  
the answer!"*

Most modern treatments are developed from research studies which compare two treatments.

Will you help us find the answer?





Thoughts spring to mind...

NOT THIS TIME.  
I'M NOT FEELING GREAT

THERE'S TOO MUCH  
GOING ON IN MY LIFE

IT'LL FEEL LIKE  
SOMETHING I AM GIVING  
BACK TO MEDICAL RESEARCH

THE RESULTS MAY  
BENEFIT ME...



A space for you to jot down any  
thoughts and feelings



From out of the mix of thoughts and feelings questions form and rise.

WILL I HAVE TO  
FILL OUT LOTS OF FORMS?

DO I WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY  
TO CONTRIBUTE TO MEDICAL SCIENCE?

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE  
INFORMATION GATHERED?

WILL I BE GIVEN DRUGS  
INTRAVENOUSLY?

WHAT MEDICATION  
WILL I BE GIVEN?

CAN I CHANGE MY MIND AT  
ANY POINT?





Take a look at The Patient Information Sheet, it has a lot of answers.

You can also speak to a research nurse or doctor.

Will you help us to find the answer?

If you say yes, then you will either be given a course of antibiotics as advised by your doctor (usually a week or two)

or

you will be given a 28 days course of antibiotics to complete.



### Three No-No's

No placebos (a treatment that has no active properties like a sugar pill)

No new experimental drugs. You will be given a routinely used antibiotic.

No extra blood tests or scans



## What about the paperwork?

The idea of filling out lots of forms can be off putting.

There is also a form showing how many days you took antibiotics for.

There are no trick questions and a family member or friend can help you.

You can fill these in at home.

First of all, you'll fill in a short form to confirm that you have agreed to take part.

You can change your mind at any time.

Next there is a questionnaire to complete at one month, three month and six month intervals.





A creative space for you

to write down any questions or thoughts  
or drawings (or shopping lists or  
doodles) because, as you know, the  
world is full of questions.



The findings from this research study will be shared around the world.

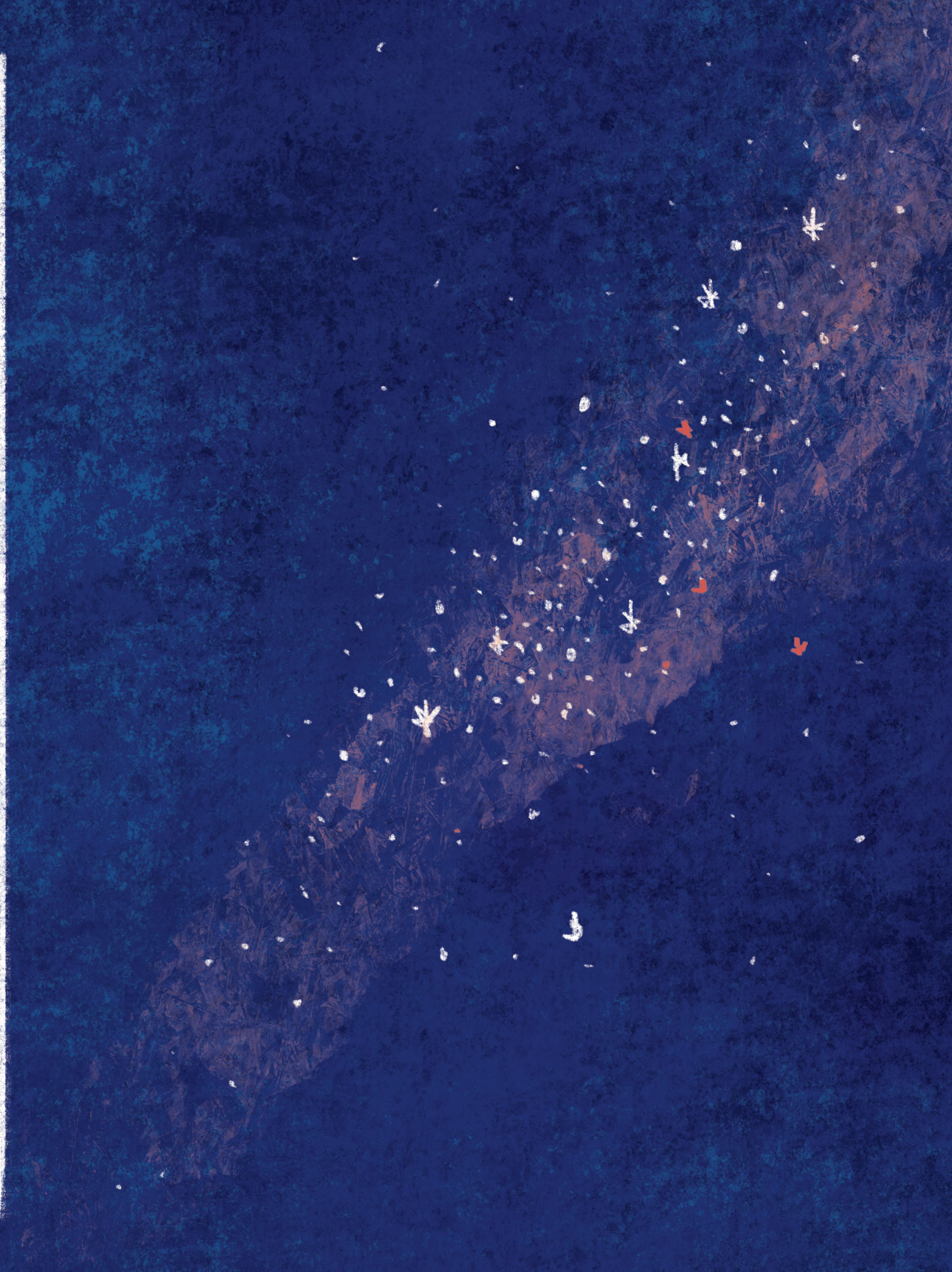
You will have played a part in answering the question,

‘What’s the best way to treat a nasty infection of the tummy or the gut?’





A space to note down any information that  
your doctor or nurse has given you -  
Medications? Time Frames? Names?

A large, blank, textured white rectangular area, resembling a piece of paper or a card, intended for writing down medical information. It is positioned on the left side of the image, against a dark blue background.



We hope that you enjoyed the contents and that it helped you to come to a decision about whether or not to take part in the research study.

Alongside the key information about the clinical trial, we have provided space for you to make notes and invite you to be creative and to share this story with others.

As part of the process, we spent time listening to doctors, medical practitioners and patient groups. We were excited at the opportunity to create something fresh and new.

Lynda Waterhouse (Author) and Imogen Fancourt (Illustrator)

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