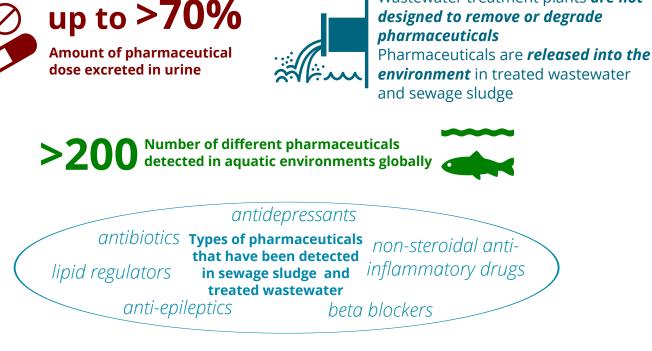
## Pharmaceutical pollutants factsheet



Wastewater treatment plants are not





### >195 000 tonnes

Amount of sewage sludge (biosolids) spread on Australian *agricultural* land in one year



# Characteristics of pharmaceutical pollutants

biological effect at ——— low concentrations	endocrine disruptors
antibiotic resistance ——	ecosystem damage
	chronic exposure
mixture effects	persistence or
	pseudo-persistence

#### **Actions required**

**1. IMPLEMENT** binding guidelines relating to pharmaceutical contaminants in biosolids and recycled water

- **2. STOP** the use of biosolids as fertliser pending further investigation of pharmaceutical contaminants
- **3. INVEST** in the development and use of advanced wastewater treatment technologies that remove and degrade pharmaceutical pollutants

#### Download the report *Pharmaceutical Pollution in the Environment* at www.ntn.org.au