

Be Antibiotics Aware

Word Search



Antibiotics are medicines to treat certain infections caused by bacteria. You can “Be Antibiotics Aware” by letting your medical provider know that you want to avoid unnecessary antibiotics.

Talk with your provider or pharmacist about ways to get relief from your symptoms. Many respiratory illnesses are caused by viruses, and usually don’t need antibiotic treatment. There are things you can do to feel better while your body fights a virus. If you need antibiotics to treat an infection, take them exactly as prescribed. Don’t take antibiotics prescribed for someone else or for another medical condition.

Instructions:

Find and circle each word in the list. Some letters are used more than once. Words may be diagonal or backward.

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|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Handwashing | 7. Bacteria | 13. Pneumonia |
| 2. Cough | 8. Virus | 14. Antihistamine |
| 3. Immunization | 9. Fungus | 15. Rest |
| 4. Vaccine | 10. Sinusitis | 16. Influenza |
| 5. Antibiotic | 11. Bronchitis | 17. Sepsis |
| 6. Infection | 12. Strep | |

A I S Q H I S K X J S H N B X
 S N I W E M Q T F C G G A M N
 I F T V Z M P R R U B C W O Y
 S L I I Y U F N O E T T I M H
 P U H Y H N Q C E E P T N A K
 E E C W Y I I Y R U C O N D J
 S N N J U Z S I C E M D X T A
 Q Z O P U A A T F S W O M O D
 K A R E B T Z N A A U Z N M K
 M F B U S I I F S M F G L I G
 V I R U S O P H P Z I Q N P A
 F O E S E N I C C A V N X U T
 T G S S I N U S I T I S E I F
 T D T E G Z O U G X T V V J S
 C I T O I B I T N A V D U A R

Visit www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/community/ for more information.

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Word Search Glossary

An **INFECTION** can be caused by a virus, bacteria, fungus or parasite.

HANDWASHING is an important way to prevent catching or spreading infections. Rub your hands with soap for at least 15 seconds, and rinse with clean water to remove dirt and germs. Using hand sanitizer is another good way to help prevent infections.

A **COUGH** is a symptom that can be caused by many things. Your medical provider can help determine what is causing your cough and how to get relief.

IMMUNIZATION can prevent infections and help you stay healthy. Immunizations are important for adults as well as children.

A **VACCINE** can help boost the body's immune system.

To fight infections caused by bacteria, you may be prescribed an **ANTIBIOTIC**. There are many types of antibiotics that fight different infections. Let your provider know about other medications you are taking, because they might interact with antibiotics.

BACTERIA are tiny organisms that live all around us, but are too small to see. Some types of bacteria cause severe illness and are difficult to kill.

If you have an infection caused by a **VIRUS**, antibiotics won't help because they fight bacteria. Your provider will suggest other ways to feel better and get relief from your symptoms.

Some types of infection are caused by **FUNGUS**. Antibiotics don't treat this type of infection, and could make symptoms worse.

SINUSITIS is usually caused by a virus. There are things that can help you feel less miserable.

BRONCHITIS is usually caused by a virus, but other things can cause this lung condition.

STREP (short for "Streptococcus") is a type of bacteria that can cause infection. If untreated, Strep infections can cause life-threatening complications.

PNEUMONIA is a type of lung infection that can be caused by a virus, bacteria or fungus.

ANTIHISTAMINE medications help relieve symptoms of allergies like runny nose, sneezing, hives, itching and watery eyes.

If you are sick, it's important to try to get as much **REST** as possible to help your body heal. Sleep is important to staying healthy and keeping your immune system strong.

INFLUENZA (sometimes called "the flu") is an infection caused by a virus. There are many types of flu. Getting a flu shot can help prevent some infections, or make them less severe.

A person with infection can develop a life-threatening condition called **SEPSIS**.