

All Healthcare Professionals can *Be Antibiotics Aware*



**BE
ANTIBIOTICS
AWARE**
SMART USE, BEST CARE



CS335343-A

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use.

NATIONAL ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS WEEK – THIRD WEEK OF NOVEMBER

- You can do harm by prescribing antibiotics when they are not needed.
 - Antibiotics are only needed to treat certain infections caused by bacteria, not viruses like SARS-CoV-2.
 - Treating asymptomatic bacteriuria with antibiotics is unnecessary in most cases.
- Optimizing the use of diagnostic tests is critical for improving treatment of conditions like sepsis and stopping the spread of infections, including those caused by SARS-CoV-2.
- Always remember to prescribe the right antibiotic, at the right dose, for the right duration, and at the right time.
 - Reassess antibiotic therapy to stop or tailor treatment based on clinical condition and diagnostic test results as appropriate.
 - Use of the shortest effective duration of antibiotic therapy is a key antibiotic stewardship strategy. Optimizing duration of therapy, especially in care transitions, is an important target for improvement.