



HOT TOPIC

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AN IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT APPROPRIATE ANTIBIOTIC USE

Antibiotics can help patients feel better — and save lives — but only if they are used appropriately.

[According to the Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), at least 30% of the antibiotics in U.S. outpatient settings are prescribed unnecessarily. Whenever antibiotics are used, they can cause side effects and lead to antibiotic-resistant infections.

Your patients may ask you if they need antibiotics if they are feeling ill. It's important that you educate your patients who do need antibiotics about how to use them appropriately.

For providers participating in our True Performance and other Value Based Reimbursement programs, appropriate antibiotic use is a key performance measure that can affect reimbursement rates.

Review and Share Informational Resources with Your Staff and Patients

We encourage you to review the resources below and share them with your staff and patients.

These resources available on the Provider Resource Center:

- Antibiotic Flyer
- Antibiotic FAQs Card

To access these resources:

- Click **EDUCATION/MANUALS**
- Select **Educational Resources - Member and Provider**
- Click the links to any of these resources

The CDC also has [helpful resources on antibiotic resistance and appropriate antibiotic use](#).

We thank you for your continued support of your patients who are our members, and for your role in safeguarding the health of the communities we serve.