

# GET SMART



## Know When Antibiotics Work

**Get Smart.** Take a look at this chart to find out which upper respiratory infections are usually caused by viruses — germs that are not killed by antibiotics. Talk with your doctor about ways to feel better when you are sick. Ask what you should look for at home that might mean you are developing another infection for which antibiotics might be appropriate.

Illness	Usual Cause		Antibiotic Needed
	Virus	Bacteria	
Cold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Flu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Chest Cold (in otherwise healthy children and adults)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Sore Throats (except strep)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Bronchitis (in otherwise healthy children and adults)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Runny Nose (with green or yellow mucus)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
Fluid in the Middle Ear (otitis media with effusion)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No



2 Column Newspaper (4<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" X 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>")

A PDF of this graphic will be available for download at [www.cdc.gov/getsmart](http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart) on September 17, 2003.