



Don't routinely prescribe antibiotics for patients with upper respiratory tract infections

Most of upper respiratory tract infections (URTIs) are viral in origin, and the use of antibiotics with these cases is ineffective, increases antibiotics resistance, costly, and potentially harmful. Prescribing antibiotics should be reserved for patients suspected to have bacterial infections based on clinical evaluation (e.g. exudate, enlarged and tender cervical lymph nodes, swollen tonsils ...), or for patients with confirmed bacterial infection based on laboratory investigations. Discussing the benefits and risks of using antibiotics with patients and their families is advised.

Five Things Patients and Providers Should Question - Duke University, [tutorials.mclibrary.duke.edu/hvcintro/story_content/external_files/choosing-wisely-recommendations-all-downloaded-4-13-2018.pdf](https://www.choosingwisely.org.au/recommendations/asid3). Accessed 18 Oct. 2023.

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