

Get Smart About Antibiotics

Oklahoma participates in a national campaign promoting the appropriate use of antibiotics. "**Get Smart: Know When to use Antibiotics**," developed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, teaches people that antibiotics must be used appropriately to maintain their effectiveness. The campaign focuses on the fact that most respiratory infections are caused by viruses and that antibiotics do not work against viruses. Information on over-the-counter symptom relief is also available. The goal of this campaign is that patients become comfortable asking their doctors for the best care for their illnesses, rather than asking for antibiotics.