

Appropriate Antibiotic Use

Neighborhood News – October 2025

U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week highlights the importance of appropriate antibiotic use to help combat resistance and preserve the effectiveness of treatments for future generations.

In Measurement Year (MY) 2024, Neighborhood's Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set (HEDIS®) Medicaid rate for **Avoidance of Antibiotic Treatment for Acute Bronchitis/Bronchiolitis** was 49.52%, falling below **the Quality Compass (QC) 90th percentile** of 75.42%.

How Providers Can Help

1. **Prescribe Wisely:** Reserve antibiotics for cases where they are clearly indicated. Many respiratory conditions, such as acute bronchitis, are viral and do not benefit from antibiotic treatment.
2. **Testing and Documentation:** Prescribe antibiotics for sore throats only after a positive strep test result. Ensure accurate documentation in the patient's medical record.
3. **Discuss Risks:** Talk with patients the potential risks of unnecessary antibiotic use, including allergic reactions, C. difficile infections, and the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

For tools and educational materials to support antibiotic use, visit the [CDC's antibiotic stewardship page](#).

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