



## World Antibiotic Awareness Week

Every November, World Antibiotic Awareness Week (WAAW) aims to increase awareness of antibiotic resistance.

Some of the most commonly prescribed drugs are antibiotics and they save millions of lives each year. Unfortunately, overuse and misuse have led to a rise in antibiotic-resistant bacteria causing 2 million illnesses and 23,000 deaths each year in the U.S. alone.

### ***Be Safe!***

**Take only antibiotics that have been prescribed to you by a medical doctor and filled by a licensed pharmacy.**



### *What you need to know...*

Antibiotics fight bacteria which cause illnesses such as strep throat, whooping cough, and urinary tract infections.

Do not take antibiotics for viruses like the flu or a cold.

Incorrectly taking antibiotics can cause allergic reactions, kidney damage, nausea and diarrhea. Your infection can worsen, which can lead to serious complications, even death.

Overuse of antibiotics or taking them for the wrong reasons can create super bugs which are bacteria that are hard to kill with available drugs.

Stopping an antibiotic too soon can result in your body becoming resistant to that antibiotic, causing it not to work the next time you need it.

**If you do not feel well, seek medical attention!**

