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## In The News

[President signs order to fight superbugs](#) – CNN Health

[Novel antibiotic class created](#) – BBC News

[Antibiotic resistance: how has it become a global threat to public health?](#) – Medical News Today

[Senators Dianne Feinstein, Kirsten Gillibrand, and Elizabeth Warren Urge White House to Request Resources on Antibiotic Resistance](#) – Sierra Sun Times



## Fall 2014 Collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

The Get Smart Program has initiated a second collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy! First year pharmacy students are required to take an experimental learning course during their fall semester. This helps build their skills in community involvement through service

learning in various populations. Tabitha, our Pittsburgh Get Smart Intern, was preceptor for two students, who are participating in antimicrobial stewardship activities. The aim of this project was to promote judicious use of antibiotics in child care centers in the Pittsburgh area. For their project, Tabitha educated the students on the topics of antimicrobial resistance, hand hygiene, and immunizations. The students then developed a PowerPoint presentation to educate child care center providers on antimicrobial resistance, common illnesses that often lead to unnecessary use of antibiotics, hand hygiene for children of all ages, and pertussis and influenza vaccinations. The staff was given a pre and post quiz to assess the impact of the educational activity on their antibiotic knowledge. The staff has been very attentive and with to gather more knowledge on the topics. After the staff education component, the students taught the children, ages three years old and up, about germs and hand hygiene. This includes information on where germs come from, when the best times to wash their hands are, how germs spread, and how to properly wash their hands to get rid of germs using a Glo-Germ demonstrating. Participating in this program prepared PITT pharmacy students to begin their career with the knowledge and communication skills to educate patients on the proper use of antibiotics.

## Get Smart Week November 17-23, 2014

Get Smart about Antibiotics Week is approaching quickly! This week's activities are developed to raise awareness about judicious use of antibiotics and to reinforce ongoing activities for promoting judicious use of antibiotics in health care and community settings. This week coordinates various activities by partners including the Pennsylvania Get Smart Program, the CDC, and nonprofit advocacy groups. This week is also observed worldwide including Europe, Australia, and Canada.



In Pennsylvania, we will announce the winners of the Kid's Art Competition during Get Smart Week on our website [www.knowwhentosayno.org](http://www.knowwhentosayno.org). In addition, we will have various activities across the state in celebrating of Get Smart Week.

Here are some steps to get involved in Get Smart week activities:

- Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart/week/index.html> for ideas for activities and ways to promote the Get Smart message.
- Partake in a Twitter chat held by the CDC (@CDCgov) on Tuesday November 18<sup>th</sup> from 3-4PM EST. Use the hashtag #SaveAbx to participate.
- Get involved in the 24 hour global twitter chat on November 18<sup>th</sup> by using the hashtag #AntibioticDay.

If you would like help planning an event for Get Smart Week, please contact Tabitha Reefer ([treefer@pa.gov](mailto:treefer@pa.gov)) or Elizabeth Edkin ([eedkin@pa.gov](mailto:eedkin@pa.gov)).

### **Thank you and Goodbye to Amanda!**



It's that time again when one of our interns moves on to the next chapter in their career.

Amanda Reiff has been a Get Smart intern since

October 2013 and has recently graduated from Penn State Hershey with her Masters of Public Health. She has accepted a position as an epidemiologist for Jefferson County Public Health Department in Colorado. There she will be working with the local school districts in disease control and infection prevention programs. Here is a word from Amanda:

“It was truly rewarding to be part of a public health campaign to combat the important issue of antimicrobial resistance. I enjoyed the many projects I completed and helped complete throughout my time here. I want to thank all the Get Smart supporters and collaborators who have helped me succeed in this position by contributing to the Get Smart program. Thank you to PA Department of Health in Harrisburg for welcoming me into their offices and providing me encouragement and support as I embark on my new journey. Thank you Nkuchia for giving me this wonderful opportunity to work on this important public health issue and providing me the support I needed to achieve my goals. The Get Smart program has helped me develop important tools that will aid in my public health career. I will definitely continue to support the fight against antibiotic resistance throughout my career. Once again, thank you everyone!”



### **Welcome our new Get Smart Intern, Elizabeth Edkin!**

In September, PA Get Smart Program hired a new intern. Elizabeth Edkin, to assist with central PA activities. Elizabeth received her Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies with a concentration in Child Development from Pennsylvania State University in 2012. Since, she has worked as a Project Coordinator for the

Air Quality Partnerships of Susquehanna Valley and Lehigh Valley-Berks. There

she developed educational programs that aimed to help protect children from the health risks associated with exposure to air pollution. She also works with the Lancaster General Health Network as a Community Health Educator. In this role, she has helped to develop and implement obesity prevention initiatives and coach LGH employees in different areas of wellness.

Elizabeth is currently pursuing her Masters of Public Health from the Milton S. Hershey School of Medicine, specializing in health policy, systems and administration. Upon graduation, she would like to enter the consulting field where she can use her knowledge and skills to help a variety of organizations design and apply successful health promotion programs and policies. Welcome Elizabeth!

If you have any ideas for future newsletters or would like more information please feel free to contact us. To unsubscribe please email us.

Get Smart Team: [Knowwhentosayno@pa.gov](mailto:Knowwhentosayno@pa.gov)