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[Antibiotic resistance could be 'next pandemic,' CDC says](#) – USA Today

[Study finds many flu patients not treated appropriately](#) – Medline Plus

[Antibiotic resistance among foodborne-illness germs a mixed bag: CDC](#) – Medline Plus

[Back to the future with antibiotic resistance](#) – The Guardian

The 2014 2nd Annual Get Smart Kids' Competition has Begun!

The Get Smart Program would like everyone to know the importance of washing our hands, getting our vaccines, and using antibiotics wisely. Therefore, we are sponsoring a kids' competition that is open to children across Pennsylvania who are 12 years of age and younger. The top three winners in each age group will be awarded a prize and his or her artwork will be displayed on the Pennsylvania Get Smart Website!



Last year, we had approximately 500 entries from children 8 years old and younger. This year we are expanding our competition to include children from 12 years old and younger.

Children are encouraged to draw a picture, design a poster, write a story or write a poem based on one of the following themes:

- Importance of proper hand washing
- Importance of vaccines
- Knowing when NOT to use antibiotics

Please check our website (<http://www.KnowWhenToSayNo.org>) for competition guidelines, parent consent form, and submission directions.



Sick Child Exclusion Policy for Childcare Centers is Ready for Release

The Pennsylvania Department of Health Get Smart Program is getting ready to release its Sick-Child Exclusion Policy Recommendations for the public. In 2012, the Pennsylvania Get Smart Program, Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), and the Department of Public Welfare formed a Sick-Child Exclusion Policy Advisory Group. The group consisted of experts in pediatric medicine, childcare center directors, public health officials, and childcare consultants. The group's main objective was to develop practical guidelines for childcare providers to help implement appropriate sick-child exclusion policies.

Children who are cared for in childcare facilities are at an increased risk for acquiring upper respiratory infections due to their close contact with other children and adults. Childcare facilities often have their own sick-child exclusion policies; however, they do not follow any standardized guidelines. Often these policies unnecessarily exclude children with mild illnesses and symptoms. Some policies require that ill children take antibiotics regardless of illness before they are readmitted, which is often unnecessary. Inclusion and exclusion criteria should not be dependent on antibiotic prescriptions since viral illnesses do not require antibiotics!

Get Smart Mobile App Development

The Get Smart program is currently working on a mobile app to educate people with different backgrounds on antibiotic resistance, vaccinations, and hand hygiene. The app will improve access to our website by mobile device to increase access to Get Smart information.



We would like this app to be effective and appealing to the public. If you have any ideas or suggestions for this app, please let us know!

Watch for the announcement of the availability of our new Get Smart App!

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

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