

Name _____

Choosing the Right Tool: Broad-Spectrum vs. Narrow-Spectrum Antibiotics

Short Answer Key

1. A key characteristic of broad-spectrum antibiotics is that they cover a wide range of bacteria.
2. Narrow-spectrum antibiotics differ from broad-spectrum antibiotics in that they target a narrower range of bacteria.
3. Broad-spectrum antibiotics are described as Swiss army knives.
4. Broad-spectrum antibiotics might have a higher risk of causing antibiotic resistance because they cover a wide range of bacteria.
5. Healthcare providers choose between broad-spectrum and narrow-spectrum antibiotics based on the type of infection and suspected bacterial pathogen.

