

Name _____

Antibiotics: The Right Prescription for the Right Infection

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. It's important for antibiotics to be prescribed by healthcare providers because they can accurately diagnose the type of infection, determine the most appropriate antibiotic treatment, and monitor for any adverse effects or interactions with other medications.
2. One consequence of using antibiotics inappropriately is the development of antibiotic resistance, where bacteria become resistant to the effects of antibiotics, making infections more difficult to treat and posing a public health threat.
3. Responsible antibiotic use is essential in preventing the development of antibiotic resistance because it helps to preserve the effectiveness of antibiotics for future generations and reduce the spread of resistant bacteria.
4. Antibiotics are not effective against viral infections because they specifically target bacterial cells and cannot destroy viruses. Using antibiotics for viral infections is not only ineffective but also contributes to the development of antibiotic resistance.

