Image:
Healthcare provider with mother and child

Text: 
How do I know if I need an antibiotic?
•Ask your healthcare provider what medicines you can safely take to help you feel better. 
•If you have an infection caused by bacteria, your healthcare provider may prescribe an antibiotic. If so, you should take the antibiotic as directed. 
•If you have an infection caused by a virus, an antibiotic won’t help, and may make you feel worse.

Why don’t I need an antibiotic for my cold or cough? 
•Viruses, not bacteria, cause colds and coughs. Antibiotics don’t treat viruses.
•Antibiotics do not help a cough or a stuffy or runny nose go away faster.
•Antibiotics can cause side effects like diarrhea, rash, or allergic reactions—which can sometimes be serious. 
•Every time you take an antibiotic when you do not need one, you increase the chances that common antibiotics won’t work as well in the future. 
•To practice better, safer medicine, your healthcare practitioner will only prescribe antibiotics when necessary. 

Text in box:
Help us help you stay healthy!
Our healthcare provider team is here to provide you the best care possible and keep you safe. 
Please ask us questions!

Disclaimer:
This document is intended to provide health-related information so that you may be better informed. It is not a substitute for your healthcare provider's medical advice and should not be relied upon for treatment for specific medical conditions.

AHRQ Pub. No. 17(22)-0030

September 2022

Directions for Adding Your Logo to Your Document

If you chose to add a logo to this document, you can place it in the footer, below the article development content.

**Steps:**

1. Open the footer section (either double click in the footer section of the document or go to the “Insert” tab **→** select the drop-down menu for “Footer”**→** and click on “Edit Footer”).
2. Make sure your cursor is below the bottom line (or wherever you want your logo).
3. Go to the “Insert” tab.
4. Click on “Pictures” from the “Insert” tab.
5. A window will pop up so you can search your computer for the logo. Select your logo (.jpg or .png format) and click the insert button.
6. Your logo will appear in your footer. If you are happy with the placement, skip step 7.
7. \*\* If you want to move the logo image around, click on the logo → go to the   
   “Format” tab → click on the “Wrap Text” drop-down menu → and select “In front of text.” This formatting will allow you to move the logo freely around the screen.
8. When you are satisfied with the placement of the logo, exit the footer section (either double click outside of the footer area or go to the “Design” tab → and click the “Close header and footer” button).