SHORTER IS SMARTER
Reducing duration of antibiotic therapy in long-term care

Antibiotic use drives selective pressure

Selective pressure kills susceptible bacteria and allows resistant organisms to thrive and multiply.

1. Before

2. Short duration

3. Long duration

Shorter courses are as effective as longer courses

Based on studies in hospitalized and outpatients for common infections seen in long-term care: urinary tract infection, pneumonia, and cellulitis.

Shorter courses have a lower risk of harm

Shorter courses are also associated with a lower risk of antibiotic associated harms, like side effects or C.difficile.

For more information see Reducing Duration of Antibiotic Treatment for Common Infections in Long-Term Care or visit publichealthontario.ca/asp