

## CDC and EZC Pak Celebrate Annual Get Smart About Antibiotics Week

November 14, 2016 – *Los Angeles, CA* – CDC and EZC Pak have partnered to increase awareness of antibiotic resistance by celebrating the global Get Smart About Antibiotics Week.

Antibiotic resistance occurs when bacteria change in a way that reduces the effectiveness of antibiotics. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), along with a league of national and international partners, including EZC Pak, will observe the ninth annual Get Smart About Antibiotics Week from November 14-20.

During this week, participants will raise awareness of the threat of antibiotic resistance and emphasize the importance of appropriate antibiotic use across all health care settings. Antibiotic use is the single most important contributing factor to antibiotic resistance, and up to one-third to one-half of antibiotic use in humans is either unnecessary or inappropriate.

“Antibiotics are critical adjuncts to modern medicine, are vital to performing effective surgical procedures, and provide medical treatment for a variety of serious illnesses,” said **Dr. Lauri Hicks**, Director for CDC’s Office of Antibiotic Stewardship. “Alarmingly, we are facing the end of the antibiotic era because antibiotics are being inappropriately prescribed and used, which contributes to antibiotic resistance. It is crucial that antibiotics are used only when absolutely necessary.”

“We are proud to be a partner of CDC’s Get Smart About Antibiotics initiative, as EZC Pak was specifically designed to treat viral upper respiratory infections, while addressing this antibiotic issue,” says EZC Pak founder and chief executive Dr. Sarath Malepati.

The Get Smart About Antibiotics Week 2016 observance marks the second annual World Antibiotic Awareness Week, which coincides with European Antibiotic Awareness Day, Canada Antibiotic Awareness Week, and other similar observances across the world. For additional information about Get Smart: Know When Antibiotics Work, please visit [www.cdc.gov/getsmart](http://www.cdc.gov/getsmart).

To find EZC Pak in a store near you, please visit [www.ezcpak.com/pages/store-locator](http://www.ezcpak.com/pages/store-locator). Other information and updates can be found on [Facebook.com/EZCPak](https://www.facebook.com/EZCPak).

### About EZC Pak

EZC Pak is a physician formulated immune support pack for Upper Respiratory Infections (URIs). The uniquely effective formula consists of a proprietary, patent-pending blend of prescription grade Echinacea, Zinc, and Vitamin C. EZC Pak has been developed by Dr. Sarath Malepati, leading physician and expert in upper respiratory infection treatment. ([www.ezcpak.com](http://www.ezcpak.com))

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Media Contact: Melissa Aguas  
[Melissa@ppcgv.com](mailto:Melissa@ppcgv.com)