

**Early Administration of Azithromycin can Prevent Severe Lower Respiratory Tract Illnesses (LRTIs) in Preschool Children with a History of Such Illnesses.**

*Bacharier LB, et al. JAMA. 2015; 314(19):2034-44.*

- A 12 month, placebo-controlled trial was conducted across 9 academic US medical centers in 607 preschool children (Age= 12 to 71 months) with histories of recurrent, severe LRTIs to assess whether early administration of azithromycin (12 mg/kg/day for 5 days) can prevent progression of these episodes.
- Azithromycin significantly reduced the risk of progression to severe LRTI relative to placebo.
- Induction of azithromycin-resistant organisms and adverse events were less.

**Among young children with histories of recurrent severe LRTIs, the use of azithromycin early during an apparent RTI reduced the likelihood of severe LRTI.**