

Things to know about

# EAR INFECTIONS

Call Us First..

- Ear infections are one of the most common childhood illnesses, although they are rarely serious.
- Pain control is important for ear infections, but treatment with antibiotics is not always necessary.
- Your child will generally not need emergency assessment for an ear infection. If you are concerned about your child or feel she may need emergency assessment, **call us first, anytime night or day.**
- Most ear infections can be managed with pain control at home.
- Your child can be seen at our office in the next 24-48 hours or may not need to be seen urgently if the symptoms go away.
- Your child's own office/doctor is best equipped to diagnose and manage the ear infection and to monitor recurrent infections and address prevention.

**Call us immediately, anytime, day or night,** if your child is under 21 months of age and has a fever (above 100.4 (F), if your child (an any age) has a fever greater than 105 (F), or is complaining of severe ear pain even after receiving pain medication, is difficult to arouse, has a stiff neck, or looks or acts very sick.

- **Call us first, anytime, day or night,** before seeking emergency care. We can discuss pain management, whether antibiotics might be indicated and help set up a time to see your child.

***If your child is experiencing and immediate, life-threatening emergency, call 911 or go to an Emergency Room.***

## TAKING YOUR CHILD'S TEMPERATURE

To measure a fever, a digital multi-use thermometer works well.

It can be used rectally for babies and toddlers, under the arm for any age, and in the mouth for children 4 and older.

For infants under 2 months old, it is important to check the rectal temperature.

A temporal artery (side of head) thermometer can be used in children over 3 months old.

A tympanic (ear) thermometer can be used in children over 6 months old.

## DOSING MEDICATION FOR FEVER AND PAIN ACETAMINOPHEN (TYLENOL)

Child's weight (pounds)	6-11	12-17	18-23	24-35	36-47	48-59	60-71	72-95	96+	lbs.
Liquid 160 mg/ 5 milliliters (mL)	1.25	2.5	3.75	5	7.5	10	12.5	15	20	mL
Liquid 160 mg/ 1 teaspoon (tsp)	_	1/2	3/4	1	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	4	tsp
Chewable 80 mg tablets	_	_	1 1/2	2	3	4	5	6	8	tabs
Chewable 160 mg tablets	_	_	_	1	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	4	tabs
Adult 325 mg tablets	_	_	_	_	_	1	1	1 1/2	2	tabs
Adult 500 mg tablet	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	1	1	tab

## IBUPROFEN (MOTRIN/ADVIL) > 6 MONTHS

Child's weight (pounds)	12-17	18-23	24-35	36-47	48-59	60-71	72-95	96+	lbs.
Infant Drops 50 mg/ 1.25 (mL)	1.25	1.875	2.5	3.75	5	_	_	_	mL
Liquid 100 mg/ 5 milliliters (mL)	2.5	4	5	7.5	10	12.5	15	20	mL
Liquid 100 mg/ 1 teaspoon (tsp)	1/2	3/4	1	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	4	tsp
Chewable 50 mg tablets	_	_	2	3	4	5	6	8	tabs
Junior-strength 100 mg tablets	_	_	_	_	2	2 1/2	3	4	tabs
Adult 200 mg tablets	_	_	_	_	1	1	1 1/2	2	tabs