

Otitis media

What is otitis media?

- It is an infection of the middle ear.
- It is common in children.

Symptoms of ear infections



Fever



Earache



Crying



Pulling or rubbing the ear



Fluid draining from the ear



Not sleeping well

How to prevent ear infections



Wash hands and your child's toys



Make sure your child's immunizations are up to date



Breastfeeding



Keep away from second-hand smoke



Avoid propping up your child's bottle

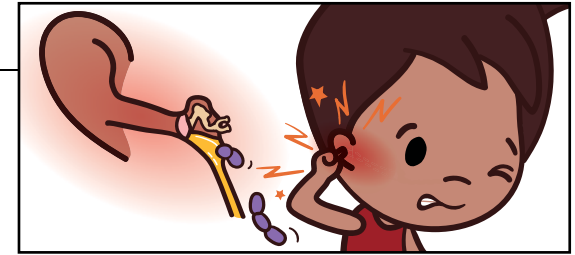
How to treat ear infections

Pain and fever relief

- You can give your child acetaminophen or ibuprofen to help with any earache or fever. Ask the health-care provider if you are unsure how much to give your child.

Antibiotics

- Not all ear infections need antibiotics.
- If the health-care provider gives antibiotics, make sure to finish the entire treatment, even if your child is feeling better.



Go back to the clinic if your child:



Has fever or pain after taking an antibiotic for 48 hours



Gets a rash or swollen face when taking the antibiotic



Is not eating or drinking or is throwing up



Seems very sleepy or cranky



Has redness or swelling behind the ear



Has a painful or stiff neck