Ear Drops Use
Pediatric

Follow these instructions to put drops of medication into your child's outer ear.

HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- Wash your hands.
- Warm the ear drops in your hand for a few minutes. This will help prevent nausea or discomfort.
- Gently mix the ear drops just before putting them in the ear.
- Have your child lay down on their stomach on a flat surface. Have them turn their head so that the affected ear is facing upward.
- Pull the top of the affected ear in a backward and upward direction if your child is 3 years old or older. This opens the ear canal to allow the drops to flow inside. If your child is less than 3 years old, pull the bottom of the affected ear (*lobe*) in a backward and downward direction.
- Put drops in the affected ear as instructed. After putting the drops in, your child will need to lay down with the affected ear facing up for ten minutes so the drops will remain in the ear canal and run down and fill the canal. Gently press on the skin near the ear canal to help the drops run in.
- Prior to getting up, put a cotton ball gently in your child’s ear canal. Do not attempt to push this down into the canal with a Q-tip or other instrument.
- Repeat for the other ear if both ears need the drops. Your child’s caregiver will let you know if you need to put drops in both ears.
- Wash your hands.
- Do not irrigate or wash out your child’s ears unless instructed to do so by your caregiver.
- Keep appointments with your caregiver as instructed.
- Continue to use the ear drops for the length of time prescribed by your child’s caregiver, even if the problem seems to be gone after only a few days.

SEEK MEDICAL CARE IF:

- Your child becomes worse or develops increasing pain.
- You notice any unusual drainage from your child’s ear.
- Your child develops hearing difficulties.
- You have any other questions or concerns.

Document Released: 10/15/2010
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