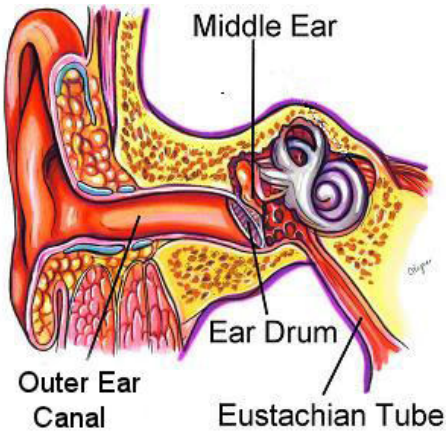
Middle Ear Infection, Child
(Otitis Media, Child)

A middle ear infection is an infection in the space behind the eardrum. It often happens along with a cold. It is caused by a germ (*bacteria*) that starts growing in that space. Your neck may feel puffy (*swollen*) on the side of the ear infection.



AN INFECTION WAS FOUND TODAY IN YOUR CHILD'S:

Right ear and/or left ear.

HOME CARE

- Have your child take all medicines as told by your doctor. Do this even if your child starts to feel better.
- **Follow up** with your doctor as told.

GET HELP RIGHT AWAY IF:

- The pain is getting worse.
- Your child has a temperature by mouth above 102° F (38.9° C), not controlled by medicine.
- Your baby is older than 3 months with a rectal temperature of 102º F (38.9º C) or higher.
- **Your baby is 3 months old or younger with a rectal temperature of 100.4º F (38º C) or higher.**
- Your child is very fussy, tired, or confused.
- Your child has a headache, neck pain, or a stiff neck.
- Your child has watery poop (*diarrhea*) or throws up (*vomits*) a lot.
- Your child starts to shake (*seizures*).
- Pain medicine does not help the pain when used as told.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch your child's condition.
- Will get help right away if your child is not doing well or gets worse.

Document Released: 06/05/2009 Document Re-Released: 03/14/2011
ExitCare® Patient Information ©2011 ExitCare, LLC.