

YOUR CHILD'S EAR INFECTION

Ear infections do not always need an antibiotic.

Ear infections are often treated with antibiotics, but mild cases do not always need one. Your doctor may wait to see if the ear infection gets better on its own.

Signs of an ear infection:

- Ear pain
- Child is playing less
- Acting fussy/increased crying
- Decreased appetite
- Fever

What you can do at home:

- Allow extra sleep/nap time
- Provide lots of fluids
- Give acetaminophen or ibuprofen as needed for pain or fever

Call your doctor if your child has ear pain or any of these signs:

- Fluid draining from the ear
- Swelling or redness around the ear
- Dizziness
- Trouble hearing

Get Smart about Antibiotics!

Illness	Usual Cause		Antibiotic Needed?
	Virus	Bacteria	
Cold	X		No
Bronchitis	X		No
Sore throat	X		No
Ear infection		X	Sometimes

The Wisconsin Antibiotic Resistance Network (WARN) is a coalition of Wisconsin health care providers, professional organizations, and public health agencies concerned about antibiotic resistance and inappropriate antibiotic use.

