

## Infants and Very Young Children

Crying, fussiness, restlessness, irritability, especially on lying down

Tendency to rub, hold, or pull affected ear

Rolling head from side to side

Difficulty comforting child

Loss of appetite, refusal to feed

## Older Children

Crying or verbalizing feelings of discomfort

Irritability

Lethargy

Loss of appetite

## Chronic Otitis Media

Hearing loss

Difficulty communicating

Feeling of fullness, tinnitus, or vertigo may be present

## Therapeutic Management

Treatment for AOM is one of the most common reasons for antibiotic use in the ambulatory setting. Recently, however, concerns about drug-resistant *S. pneumoniae* and other drug resistances have led infectious disease authorities to recommend careful and judicious use of antibiotics for the treatment of this illness. Current literature indicates that waiting up to 72 hours for spontaneous resolution is safe and appropriate management of AOM without severe signs and symptoms in healthy infants older than 6 months of age ([Lieberthal, Carroll, Chonmaitree, et al, 2013](#)). Furthermore, some reviews of the treatment of AOM reveal no clear