Proofed 12-3-09dlh

Proofed 11-20-07dlh

Earache in children: Symptom Checker

**DocID**

No DocID – not contained in FarCry

**Title**

Earache

**Feature Title**

Earache

**List Title**

Earache

**Content is Contracted**

No

**Licensable**

No

**Searchable**

No

**Target pub date**

01/19/2010

**Review in months?**

24

**MCV Main tag**

**MCV Other tag(s)**

Content Packages > Symptom checker mobile > Child > Head and neck

**MCV Related tag(s)**

**Primary Location**

Symptom Checker

**Tease**

Middle ear infection is the most common cause of earache in children. Identify other possible common causes based on symptoms your child is experiencing.

**Abstract**

Find possible common causes of earache in children. See our Symptom Checker.

**Benefit Summary**

**Editor**

Gregory Turosak

**Content Producer**

Jay Lenn

**Content Lead**

MayoClinic Com

**Product Lead**

**WPS**

Becky Hynes

**Medical Reviewers**

John Wilkinson, M.D.|Carl Anderson, M.D.

**Source**

**Keywords**

N/A

**SEO Title**

N/A

**SEO URL Keyword**

earache

**SEO Description**

N/A

**Billboard**

**Billboard Large**

**Internal comments**

**Alternate Titles**

**FeatureID**

**Gender**

**Age**

Child

**ENTER IN FARCRY:**

**When to get medical help** (1, 2)

Talk to your doctor if your child:

Has discharge of blood or pus from the ear

Has an earache accompanied by a fever above 101 F (38.3 C)

Pulls or scratches at his or her ears

Isn't responding to sounds consistently

Is an infant and exhibits sleeplessness or painful crying during a cold

**Self-care strategies**

To relieve your child's discomfort: (1)

Give your child acetaminophen (Tylenol, others) or ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, others) — not aspirin — as directed on the label

Hold a warm, moist cloth over your child's ear

Ask the pharmacist about numbing eardrops

**More Information**

Ear infection, middle ear DS00303

**END OF FARCRY TEXT**

Find possible causes of earache based on specific factors. Check one or more factors on this page that apply to your child's symptom.

**Triggered by**

Change in air pressure

Cold or upper respiratory illness

Exposure to allergens or irritants

Injury or trauma

Foreign object in ear

Loud, sudden noise

**Accompanied by**

Bleeding from ear

Clear or pus-filled drainage

Cough

Decreased hearing

Difficulty sleeping or irritability (infant or toddler)

Dizziness or spinning sensation

Feeling of fullness in ear

Fever

Headache or facial pain

Itchy nose, mouth or throat

Mild body aches

Nausea or vomiting

Redness in ear canal

Redness or swelling of outer ear

Ringing or buzzing in ear

Runny or stuffy nose

Scaly or flaking skin on outer ear

Sneezing

Sore throat

Watery or itchy eyes

**Possible causes**

These diseases and conditions match at least one of the factors you selected. Those with the most matches are listed first.

DS00472 Airplane ear (3)

Triggered by change in air pressure

Accompanied by decreased hearing

Accompanied by dizziness or spinning sensation

Accompanied by feeling of fullness in ear

Accompanied by ringing or buzzing in ear

DS00056 Common cold (4, 5)

Triggered by cold or upper respiratory illness

Accompanied by cough

Accompanied by difficulty sleeping or irritability (infant or toddler)

Accompanied by feeling of fullness in ear

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by headache or facial pain

Accompanied by mild body aches

Accompanied by runny or stuffy nose

Accompanied by sneezing

Accompanied by sore throat

Accompanied by watery or itchy eyes

DS00303 Ear infection, middle ear (6; 7, p. 288-289)

Triggered by cold or upper respiratory illness

Accompanied by clear or pus-filled drainage

Accompanied by decreased hearing

Accompanied by feeling of fullness in ear

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by headache or facial pain

DS00052 Earwax blockage (8)

Accompanied by decreased hearing

Accompanied by feeling of fullness in ear

Accompanied by ringing or buzzing in ear

HQ00061 Foreign object in the ear: First aid (9)

Triggered by foreign object in ear

Accompanied by clear or pus-filled drainage

Accompanied by decreased hearing

DS00174 Hay fever (7, p. 287; 10)

Triggered by exposure to allergens or irritants

Accompanied by cough

Accompanied by headache or facial pain

Accompanied by itchy nose, mouth or throat

Accompanied by runny or stuffy nose

Accompanied by sneezing

Accompanied by watery or itchy eyes

DS00499 Ruptured eardrum (11)

Triggered by change in air pressure

Triggered by injury or trauma

Triggered by loud, sudden noise

Accompanied by bleeding from ear

Accompanied by clear or pus-filled drainage

Accompanied by decreased hearing

Accompanied by dizziness or spinning sensation

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

Accompanied by ringing or buzzing in ear

DS00473 Swimmer's ear (12)

Accompanied by clear or pus-filled drainage

Accompanied by decreased hearing

Accompanied by feeling of fullness in ear

Accompanied by redness in ear canal

Accompanied by redness or swelling of outer ear

Accompanied by scaly or flaking skin on outer ear

How do I know if I have a hearing loss? American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. http://www.asha.org/public/hearing/disorders/how\_know.htm. Accessed Nov. 16, 2009.

Ear infections in children: What you should know. American Family Physician. 2007;76:1659.

Airplane ear. MayoClinic.com. http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/airplane-ear/DS00472. Accessed Nov. 22, 2009.

Common cold. MayoClinic.com. http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/common-cold/DS00056. Accessed Nov. 22, 2009.

Common cold in babies. MayoClinic.com. http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/common-cold-in-babies/DS01106. Accessed Nov. 22, 2009.

Ear infection, middle ear. MayoClinic.com. http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/ear-infections/DS00303. Accessed Nov. 22, 2009.

Sondheimer J. Current Essentials: Pediatrics. New York, N.Y.: McGraw-Hill; 2008.

Earwax blockage. MayoClinic.com. http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/earwax-blockage/DS00052. Accessed Nov. 22, 2009.

Foreign object in the ear: First aid. MayoClinic.com. http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/first-aid/HQ00061. Accessed Nov. 22, 2009.

Hay fever. MayoClinic.com. http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/hay-fever/DS00174. Accessed Nov. 22, 2009.

Ruptured eardrum. MayoClinic.com. http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/ruptured-eardrum/DS00499. Accessed Nov. 22, 2009.

Swimmer's ear. MayoClinic.com. http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/swimmers-ear/DS00473. Accessed Nov. 22, 2009.

PAGE 1