



**Patient's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Diagnosis:** Acute Otitis Media

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I have examined your child carefully, and she/he has an infection of the middle ear.

I have not prescribed antibiotics. The infection may be caused by a virus. Antibiotics do not work against viruses and can be harmful if taken when they are not needed. Even when the infection is caused by a bacteria germ, most healthy children can clear the infection without antibiotics.

The treatments suggested below will not make the illness go away sooner but may help your child feel better now.

For fever and/or ear pain give:

- G Acetaminophen: 10-15mg/kg every 4-6 hours
- G Ibuprofen: \_\_\_\_\_

**Follow up:**

Sometimes your child may not fight off the infection in 2 or 3 days. When this happens, I may prescribe an antibiotic, because the infection could be caused by a bacteria germ.

- G Call me if your child gets worse, is not better in 2 more days, has any new problems, or if you are worried in any way.
- G OK to attend daycare/school (if feeling well enough).
- G If your child is not better after 2 or 3 days, fill the prescription that I have given. Once you start it, be sure that your child takes it all.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Adapted from materials produced by the "Antibiotics: not always the best medicine", prepared by the **Antibiotic Resistance Education Project**, Departments of Pediatrics and Department of Family Practice, **University of British Columbia** (2/99)

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