

### **Middle Ear Infections In The Preschooler**

Ear infections are common in preschool children. Fluid in the middle ear can interfere with normal hearing.

#### **Some of the common symptoms of middle ear infections are:**

- ear aches or draining of ears
- pulling at ears
- different response to speech and everyday sounds
- turning the television or radio up much louder than usual
- change in eating or sleeping habits
- irritability
- frequent need to have directions and information repeated

**IF YOU THINK YOUR CHILD HAS AN EAR INFECTION,  
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S DOCTOR.**

#### **When the doctor tells you your child has an ear infection, here are some helpful hints:**

- get your child's attention before giving instructions; look at your child
- speak naturally, slightly louder than normal
- get close (no more than 5 feet away) and try to be face-to-face
- keep other noise low when talking to your child (e.g., turn the music down)