



# Ticket to Healthy Living

## EARACHES



Texas  
Children's  
Health Plan is  
your family's  
ticket to  
health care.



### What is an earache?

- An earache is when your ear hurts. It is usually caused by liquid or an infection in the ear.
- Earaches are very common in children and many children get them when they have a cold.
- Most children get earaches between the ages of 6 months and 2 years.

### Signs you might see

- Child pulls or rubs ear.
- Child is fussy or crying more than usual.
- Child has a fever.
- There is drainage from the ears.
- Child can't hear as well.

### What to do

- You can give Tylenol for the pain and fever. Be sure to read the label carefully to make sure you give the right amount.
- Give your child more liquids.

### When to call your doctor

- Your child has pain in the ear.
- There is liquid coming out of the ear.
- Your child has a stiff neck.
- Your child has a fever.

### More information

- The doctor will probably give your child an antibiotic.
- Your child will probably feel better after two to three days of taking the medicine, but continue to give the right amount of medicine for the right number of days.
- If your child is not feeling better within two to three days of seeing the doctor, call your doctor again.
- Remember to only clean the parts of your child's ears that you can see. Do not try to clean your child's ear canal.
- Do not put Q-tips or anything else in your child's ears.

