



EARS AND HEARING

Does your child hear you? A child who does not respond may not hear you. Ask your child's doctor about hearing testing.

Hearing problems can be caused by ear infections, water in the ear, or damage to the ear drum. You may prevent permanent hearing loss by getting the proper treatment for your child.

Young children often get ear infections. Ear infections are caused by fluid and bacteria in the tube that connects the ear with the nose. This often happens when the child has a cold or other respiratory infection. The child may have pain and fever, a red or itchy ear, or fluid coming from the ear.

Your doctor may recommend ear tubes if your child has a lot of ear infections. These tiny "tubes" are placed in the eardrum and leave little openings. This lets air into the middle ear to help it heal and stop infections.

Ear tubes are inserted by a surgeon. Your child cannot feel the tubes after they are in the ear. Ear tubes usually stay in place about 12-18 months. The tubes usually come out by themselves.

Ear Infections



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The child may have pain and fever, a red or itchy ear, or fluid coming from the ear. Ear infections can affect your child's hearing.

Call your doctor if you think your child has an ear infection.