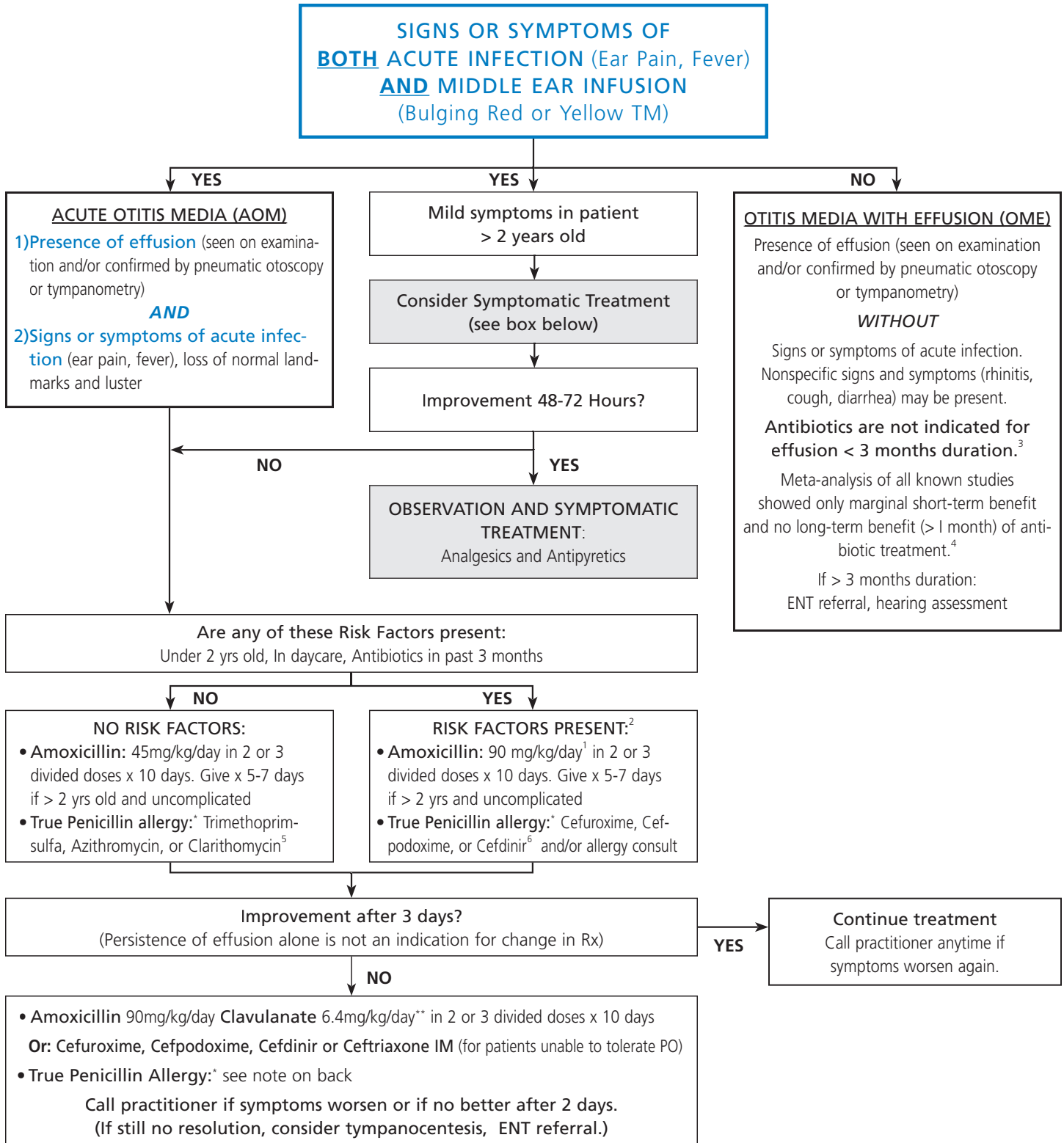


Practice Guidance for JUDICIOUS USE OF ANTIBIOTICS

OTITIS MEDIA^{1,2}

“Otitis Media with Effusion does not require antibiotic treatment.”



COMMON PATHOGENS IN AOM

Organism	Incidence Rates	Spontaneous Remission
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	30-35%	10%
<i>Hemophilus influenzae</i>	20-25%	50%
<i>Moraxella catarrhalis</i>	10-15%	90%

WHEN TO USE ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS⁷

- Limit to recurrent otitis media:
 - At least 3 distinct, well documented episodes in a six month period, or
 - At least 4 episodes in a 12 month period
- Amoxicillin 20 mg/kg/day (single dose hs) is the preferred agent
- Treatment should be limited to 3-6-month courses

PREVENTION:⁸

- Vaccination:
 - All newborns and children < 2 yrs should receive Prevnar.^{9,10}
 - Children with recurrent infections should receive Influenza vaccine if > 6 mo
 - 23-valent Pneumococcal vaccine if > 2 yrs¹¹
- Cigarette smoke avoidance/cessation
- Consider allergen and irritant avoidance
- Consider tubes
- Encourage breast feeding
- Consider daycare avoidance

NOTES:

* **True Penicillin Allergy:** history of urticaria or anaphylaxis to a penicillin are indicative of true allergy. Morbilliform and maculopapular rashes are not indicative of true allergy.
If history of penicillin anaphylaxis, consult an allergist before prescribing a cephalosporin.

** This dose ratio may not be available as a fixed combination. Clavulanate dose should not exceed 10mg/kg/day.

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This guideline is intended as a general reference. Practitioners should always independently assess each patient to evaluate whether care is indicated and what care and follow-up treatment may be appropriate under the circumstances presented. The clinical guidelines and information featured in this document are intended as an analytical framework for the evaluation and treatment of your patients. These Guidelines are not intended to replace your best clinical judgement or establish a protocol for all patients. We know that there is rarely one approach in treating a patient's clinical presentation.