



## **What is an ear infection?**

Ear infections are very common and is a general term for several types of infections of the ear. An ear infection is the result of an invasion of bacteria or viruses into the ear. Ear infections occur when a cold, throat infection, or allergy attacks causing fluid to become trapped in the middle ear. Mostly affecting children, symptoms may include earaches and thick, yellow fluid coming from the ear.

## **Symptoms**

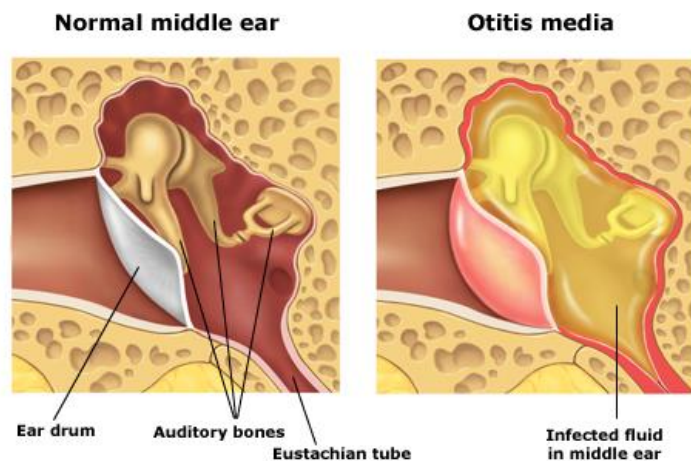
An ear infection often occurs in conjunction with a variety of symptoms that vary depending on the specific form of ear infection. Symptoms may also vary in character and intensity between individuals.

- Ear pain or tenderness
- Swelling or heat around or behind the ear
- Ear discharge that does not look like earwax

- Itching of the ear canal

In some cases, people experience more severe symptoms, which is generally indicative of a more serious problem. These complications include:

- Fever
- Headache with severe stiff neck
- Severe dizziness or vertigo
- Loss of hearing
- Confusion, excessive sleepiness, or irritability



### **When Should I Come to MainStreet Family Urgent Care?**

Most ear infections can be treated with simple antibiotics. If you have symptoms of an ear infection or if you believe that complications from an ear infection are developing, stop by MainStreet Family Urgent Care today for an evaluation!

**If you think you are suffering from an ear infection,  
stop by MainStreet Family Urgent Care!**

**We are open 7 days a week with no appointment necessary!**