



# **Prescribing Guidelines for Acute Otitis Externa and Otitis Media with Tympanostomy Tube Otorrhea**

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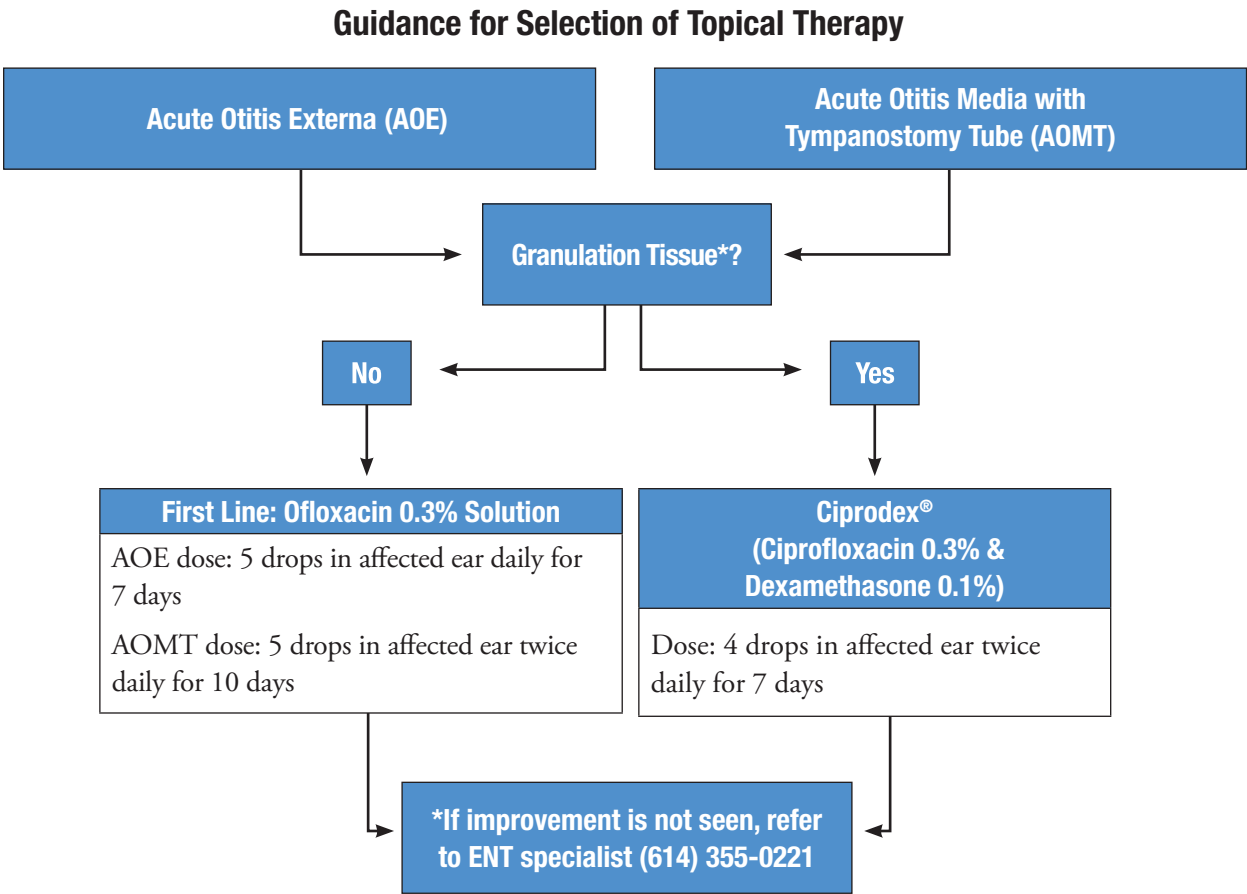


Introduction

For the majority of cases, Ofloxacin 0.3% solution is the most cost-effective and an efficacious treatment for Acute Otitis Externa (AOE) and Acute Otitis Media with Tympanostomy Tubes (AOMT). Due to cost increases of the otic solution, Partners For Kids and Nationwide Children’s Hospital’s Otolaryngology Department recommend using Ofloxacin 0.3% ophthalmic solution as an ear drop for a safe and cost-effective alternative.

Quick Overview:

- Use Ofloxacin 0.3% ophthalmic solution as ear drops for MOST patients.
- Oral analgesics, such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen, are the preferred treatments for ear pain.
- Reserve Ciprodex® for patients with granulation tissue.
- Use systemic antibiotics for high risk patients†
- Topical anesthetic drops (containing benzocaine) are not effective and should be avoided in AOE and AOMT.
- Topical aminoglycosides (containing neomycin) should be avoided in setting of tympanostomy tube or possible perforation.
- Consider ear wick placement for severe canal edema.



\*Granulation usually appears as red or pink inflammatory tissue and can be a source of bloody otorrhea.

† Consider systemic therapy for isolated AOE if patient has:

- Diabetes
- Immunodeficiency
- Cellulitis extending outside the ear canal

References:

1. Rosenfeld RM, Schwartz SR, Cannon CR, et al. Clinical practice guideline: acute otitis externa. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg* 2014; 150: S1. DOI: 10.1177/0194599813517083. [http://oto.sagepub.com/content/150/1\\_suppl/S1](http://oto.sagepub.com/content/150/1_suppl/S1) Accessed Nov 19, 2014.

2. Roland PS, Dohar JE, Lanier BJ, et al. Topical ciprofloxacin/dexamethasone otic suspension is superior to ofloxacin otic solution in the treatment of granulation tissue in children with acute otitis media with otorrhea through tympanostomy tubes. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg* 2004; 130: 736. DOI: 10.1016/j.otohns.2004.02.037. <http://oto.sagepub.com/content/130/6/736> Accessed Nov 19, 2014.

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## Referrals and Consultations

Online: [NationwideChildrens.org](https://www.NationwideChildrens.org)

Phone: (614) 722-6600 or (877) 722-6220 | Fax: (614) 722-4000

Physician Direct Connect Line for 24-hour urgent physician consultations:  
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