

Earwax



Your child's ear seems to be blocked with earwax.

Earwax is normal, but can block the ear canal if it builds up. This can prevent your child from hearing well.

Earwax can be removed by a doctor or nurse practitioner. Earwax can also be removed at home by using over-the-counter drops to soften the earwax.

Here are some health tips to help you:

- Do not use cotton swabs (Q-tips™) to clean your child's ears, since this pushes wax down into the ear. Using a washcloth at bath time is enough to clean your child's ears.
- Do not try to pull wax or any object out of the ear by sticking anything in the ear. The ear is very sensitive and can be easily damaged. See your child's doctor or nurse practitioner if your child has an object in the ear that needs to be removed.

- Always tell your child to never put anything in his or her ear smaller than his or her elbow!
- If you're sure that your child does not have a hole in the eardrum from a previous infection, accident, or surgery, you can try using an over-the-counter earwax-softening agent, such as Debrox™ or Auro Eardrops™. You can get these at a drugstore. Use it according to the directions. Call your child's doctor or nurse practitioner if you have any questions.

Brand names used in this document are only meant to be examples. DHEC does not endorse any of the brand names in this document.

Child's Name _____

School Nurse _____

Date _____

School _____

School Phone Number (_____) _____



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