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TIPS: For Success With Antibiotic Therapy



Your doctor has prescribed an antibiotic to treat your child's infection. As with all medications, it's important to follow your doctor's instructions. The simple steps below will help make your child's therapy a success. If you have any questions, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Don't miss a dose: If you do, give the antibiotic as soon as you can. If it's close to the next scheduled dose, give one dose only. Then resume the regular schedule.

Finish the entire prescription: Your child may start to feel better quickly and symptoms may disappear after just a day or two- however the best way to prevent reinfection or relapse is to complete the prescription.

Antibiotics and food: While some antibiotics may be given with food- others need to be given on an empty stomach. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you're unsure. Mild stomach cramps or loose stools is normally not a cause for concern. Though these are nuisances, they usually disappear in a few days. However, if the condition is severe or persists, call your doctor.

If your doctor has prescribed an oral suspension antibiotic: Shake the bottle well: Before using a dropper or spoon, shake the bottle until the medicine is completely dissolved.

Dose the exact amount of medicine: Avoid over or underdosing your child's medication. Remember, more medication is not better.

