



PATIENT INFORMATION ON

Strategies for Improving the Listening and Learning Environment

- Get the child's attention before speaking and, when possible, get within 3 ft of the child.
- Turn off competing sounds, such as music and television in the background.
- Face the child and speak clearly, using visual cues such as hands or pictures in addition to speech.
- Use short, simple sentences and comment on what the child is doing.
- When speaking to the child, slow down, raise the sound level, and enunciate clearly.
- Read to or with the child, explaining pictures and asking questions.
- Call attention to the sounds and spelling of words when reading.
- Patiently repeat words, phrases, and questions when misunderstood.
- In the classroom, ensure that the child sits near the teacher in the front of the room.
- If further assistance in the classroom is necessary, use a remote microphone personal or sound field amplification system.

SOURCE: Rosenfeld RM, Shin JJ, Schwartz SR, et al. Clinical practice guideline (update): otitis media with effusion. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.* 2016;154 (1 Suppl):215-225.



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
OTOLARYNGOLOGY-
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

FOUNDATION

www.entnet.org

ABOUT THE AAO-HNS/F

The American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (www.entnet.org), one of the oldest medical associations in the nation, represents about 12,000 physicians and allied health professionals who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the ears, nose, throat and related structures of the head and neck. The Academy serves its members by facilitating the advancement of the science and art of medicine related to otolaryngology and by representing the specialty in governmental and socioeconomic issues. The AAO-HNS Foundation works to advance the art, science, and ethical practice of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery through education, research, and lifelong learning. The organization's vision: "Empowering otolaryngology-head and neck surgeons to deliver the best patient care."