

Clinical practice guidelines for acute otitis media in children: A systematic review and appraisal of European national guidelines

Supplementary File 7: Investigations recommended by European, American, and WHO guidelines for acute otitis media (AOM) in children

Country	Investigation	Circumstances	National LOE / SOR	Oxford LOE /SOR
Czech Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture via tympanocentesis or swab • CRP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children <2 years of age 	-	-
Finland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complications of AOM • Underlying immunodeficiency or significant co-morbidity • Unwell patient requiring hospitalization • To relieve extreme pain 	-	-
France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture via tympanocentesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment failure 	-	-
Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood tests (FBC, CRP, Acute phase protein i.e. interleukin 6/BSG) • Culture via tympanocentesis • Ultrasound or xray 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complications • Recurrent AOM 	-	-
Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood tests (CRP, ESR, WCC) • Culture via tympanocentesis • Nasopharyngeal aspirate (only quantitatively) 	<p>For blood tests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For follow up <p>For tympanocetesis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complications • Immunocompromised • Neonate 	<p>Typanocentesis: V/ B NPA: IV/B CT scan: IV/A</p>	<p>Tympanocentesis: 4 / X NPA: 3a-3b/X CT scan: 3a-3b/ A</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CT scan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spontaneous otorrhea • Sepsis • Treatment failure • Research purposes 		
Luxembourg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture via Tympanocentesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged <3 months • Severe pain and convex ear on otoscopy • Treatment failure 	-	-
Norway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture via tympanocentesis or swab of otorrhea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment failure 	-	-
Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood tests (FBC, CRP, blood culture) • Culture (Via tympanocentesis or swab of otorrhea) • Lumbar puncture • Skull/Temporal bone CT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complications • Recurrent AOM • Spontaneous otorrhea • Treatment failure 	-	-
Sweden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture via tympanocentesis • Nasopharyngeal swab 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment failure 	-	-
AAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture via tympanocentesis • Nasopharyngeal aspirate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment failure 	-	-

No Investigations advised: Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Switzerland, UK SIGN, WHO