

Appendix 1. Outcome determinations

Primary outcome: number of episodes of physician diagnosed AOM

Information will be obtained from the chart review at the end of the study period.

- (1) Does chart entry included diagnosis or assessment of “AOM” or “acute otitis media”? [Yes or No]
- (2) Does a chart entry within 48 hours record physical examination findings of the tympanic membrane? [Yes or No]

If, and only if, answers to both question are “Yes”, add one to total number of AOM episodes. Proceed to review the next chart entry until all chart entries during the study period have been reviewed.

Secondary outcome: number of parent reported URTIs

Information will be obtained via monthly telephone calls.

- (1) Has the child had any of the symptoms for two consecutive days?
 - stuffy nose or congestion or rhinorrhea
 - cough
 - sore throat
 - wheeze
 - shortness of breath

If the child has had any of the above symptoms for two consecutive days, add one to the total number of parent reported URTI episodes.

- (2) Was the child well (symptom free) for two consecutive days during the illness?

If the child was well for two consecutive days, add another one to the total number of parent reported URTI episodes (as this is a separate URTI) and repeat step (2) if needed.

Secondary outcome: parent reported dental caries (binary)

Information will be obtained via monthly telephone calls.

Have the parents or caregivers ever been told by a dentist or a physician that the child has or has had:

- dental caries
- multiple dental caries
- early childhood caries or ECC

If the parents or caregivers have been told that the child has any of the above record the child as having dental caries (and in this case the parents and caregivers do not need to be asked about this on subsequent calls).

Note that this outcome will also be assessed at baseline so that children with dental caries at baseline can be excluded from the dental caries analysis. This is because the outcome is binary (caries or not). Based on information available about children in the TARGeT Kids! network, we expect 5-8 % of children to have caries at baseline and to be excluded from the dental caries analysis. Of course, all children will be included in the primary AOM analysis (and in the URTI analysis) regardless of whether they have had dental caries.