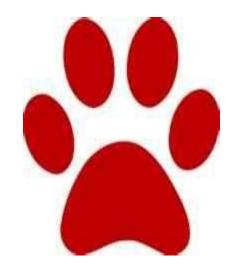
### Follow Your Path to Good Health

- 1. Visit your health care provider for an evaluation on your condition.
- 2. Decide what treatment path is best for you. Your health care provider will help you decide if medicine is a good choice for you.
- 3. Speak with your pharmacist about your medication choices and ask questions about your prescriptions.
- 4. Review your treatment plan and follow up with your care provider if you have questions or concerns.

Your path to good health begins with visiting your retail health provider.

PAWS
Prescription for
Antibiotics or
Wait and See

**Ear Infections** 





Are Antibiotics the Right Choice for You?



#### What is your condition today?

You or your child has been diagnosed with an ear infection. Ear infections may heal on their own without medication. Or your provider may give you a prescription to fill and start today. Your provider will help you to decide which option is best for you or your child.

# What is a "wait and see" approach?

Not all ear infections require immediate treatment with antibiotics. A "wait and see" approach gives the body a chance to fight off infections on its own. A close watch to see if symptoms are getting better or worse will help decide if an antibiotic is needed in the next 2-3 days.

## Why is it not recommended to take medication right away?

Antibiotics that are taken when they are not needed can be harmful. After each course of antibiotics, resistant bacteria may develop. These resistant bacteria can be difficult to treat. Therefore, it is important to follow any steps your provider has recommended.

#### **Next Steps for Healthy Ears:**

