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| RRH_Logo_CMYK_Line-01.jpg | **1425 Portland Avenue Rochester, NY 14621- 3095** [**www.rochesterregional.org**](http://www.rochesterregional.org) |

October 25, 2019

Dear Parent,

During this well child visit we are inviting you to consider having your child participate in a study about ear infections in children. **This study** **has been supported by the U.S. National Institutes of Health and currently is supported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Rochester Regional Health.** The study has been approved by the Rochester Regional Health Institutional Review Board and is registered at www.clinicaltrials.gov. If you decide to enroll your child in the study, a written consent document will be given to you with all the information you may need including the purpose, procedures, benefits, risks and compensation for participation in the study.

This study has been ongoing for 12 years. Over 1200 children have participated and have completed over 8000 visits. We have obtained over 21,000 nasal washes and blood samples.

The children in this study developed over 950 episodes of ear infections and over 1500 ear taps were performed with no known complications. Ear taps are endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics as alternative to antibiotics or in conjunction with antibiotics for the management of ear infections. The physicians conducting this research study have all been trained and certified to perform the ear tap procedure.

**Preliminary study results have shown that children in the study get fewer ear infections and need ear tubes less often1.**

* By the time the children in this study reached 30 months old, 6% experienced recurrent ear infections as compared with 27% who were seen in the Rochester community1.
* For children in the study, by the time they reached 30 months of age, 2% received ear tubes as compared with 15% who were seen in the Rochester community1.

We hope you find this information useful and we welcome any questions you may have about the study.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Pichichero, MD

Director, Research Institute

Rochester Regional Health

1Pichichero ME, Casey JR, Almudevar A. Reducing the Frequency of Acute Otitis Media by Individualized Care. Pediatr Infect Dis J 2013;32(5):473-478.