Algorithm: Acute Otitis Media

Concern for acute otitis media (AOM)

Severe symptoms?
- Moderate or severe otalgia or otalgia for ≥48 hours, or
- Temperature ≥39°C
  - **YES**
  - **Prescribe antibiotics**
    - <2 years old: 10 days
    - 2-5 years: 7 days
    - ≥6 years: 5 days
  - **Alternatives include:**
    - Cefdinir
    - Cefuroxime
    - Cefpodoxime
    - Ceftriaxone

  - **NO**
    - **Bilateral disease in a child 6-23 months?**
      - **NO**
        - **Mild, unilateral disease in 6-23 months, OR**
        - **Mild unilateral/bilateral disease in children ≥2 years**
        - **YES**
        - Consider watchful waiting for the next 48-72 hours
      - **YES**
        - **Amoxicillin in past 30 days, OR**
        - **Concurrent purulent conjunctivitis OR**
        - **History of recurrent AOM unresponsive to amoxicillin**
          - **YES**
            - Amoxicillin/clavulanate ES 90 mg/kg divided BID
          - **NO**
            - Amoxicillin 80-90 mg/kg divided BID