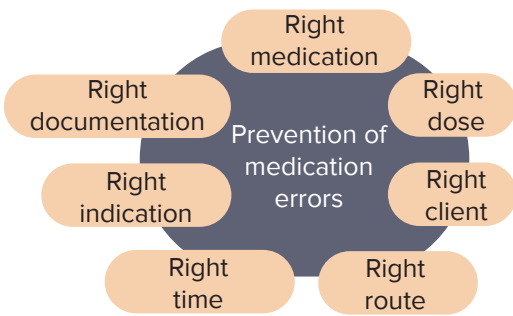


# OTIC (EAR) MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION



## Ear Drop Administration Procedure



**1** Verify medication using the Seven Rights of Administration.



- 2** Position client on their side, with affected ear turned up.
- 3** Assess ear canal using pen light. Remove any obstruction or drainage from outer ear with tissue or cotton-tipped applicator.
- 4** Gently pull on pinna to straighten ear canal using appropriate technique per client age.
- 5** Instill prescribed number of drops into the ear canal.
- 6** Massage the tragus.
- 7** Wipe any medication that drips onto client's face using facial tissue.
- 8** Repeat procedure on opposite side, if indicated.

## Supplies



Medication



Penlight



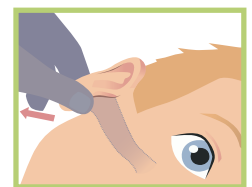
Facial tissue

## Clinical Tips

- 1** Clean only outer ear; inserting cotton-tipped applicator into ear canal may cause pain or injury.
- 2** Warm medication to room temperature for client comfort.
- 3** Remember anatomical variation in adults vs children. To straighten pinna, gently pull:



UP and back in adults



DOWN and back in children

## Client Education

- 1** Explain indication, action, dose, frequency, and duration of each medication prescription to client.
- 2** Client should remain in side-lying position for several minutes after otic drop administration to allow medication to absorb into ear canal.
- 3** If client is prescribed multiple otic medications, they should wait 3–5 minutes between administration of different types of ear drops.

## NOTES

