

## **TIPS ON GIVING MEDICINE**



- Only trained staff should give a child medicine.
- Ask parent/guardian what the medication is for and specific instructions of how and when to give the medicine. (e.g., before or after meals, with or without water)
- Ask the parent/guardian to get an extra labeled medicine bottle from the pharmacist.
- Wash your hands before and after giving any medicine.
- Be gentle, yet firm, when giving a child medicine. He or she may not want to take it.
- Follow all written instructions.
- Children will not take medicine without supervision.

### **Giving Medicine:**

#### **By Mouth**

Shake if necessary and use a dropper, syringe, medicine cup or measuring spoon to give liquids. Give the liquid slowly and wait for the child to swallow. Break large pills into smaller pieces if there is a score line on the pill. Only smash pills if directions allow it. (Some pills are to be chewed instead of swallowed whole.)

#### **By Ear**

Pull the ear toward the back of the head for ear drops.

#### **By Eye**

Gently pull out the lower eyelid and put the drops in the 'cup' of the lower lid.

#### **By Nose**

Lay the child on his or her back for nose drops.

The child can stand or sit up for nose sprays.

Ask the child to 'sniff' after drops or sprays have been given.

- We encourage parent/guardians to give the first dose of medicine at home.

# TIPS ON GIVING MEDICINE

# TIPS ON GIVING MEDICINE continued

This is important because if side effects or allergic reactions occur the parent/guardian can take care of it before bringing the child the next day.

- Check the **EXCLUSION GUIDELINES** to make sure when the child may return. (i.e. pinkeye medication is to be used for 24 hours before child may return.)  
See 7 \ ]X'9I Wi gjcb'Dc`JWn
- Do not give more medication without the approval of the parent/guardian or child's physician.
- Store medicine that does not need to be refrigerated in a cool, dark, dry area that is locked.



**ALWAYS READ THE LABEL CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU GIVE ANY MEDICINE;  
BOTTLES OFTEN LOOK THE SAME.**

- Always check the "5 RIGHTS".



- Keep all medications locked up, even in the refrigerator.
- When you answer the phone or leave the room, put the medicine away.