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Introduction

A variety of viruses induce bronchiolitis (inflammation of the small airways), which affects children under the age of one year. RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) is the most frequent cause, but influenza and other common viruses that cause upper respiratory symptoms when-

may be a forerunner to a future asthma diagnosis, but for the most majority, it is a one-time event.

Ear infections are common in children and are caused by a malfunction of the Eustachian tubes, which connect the inner ears to the throat and serve as a drain for any fluid that accumulates there. When fluid builds up, it attracts bacteria and other germs, which can multiply and cause sickness. Fever, ear discomfort, ear tugging, and even ear canal leaks are all symptoms. Ear infections can be treated either by observation or with medicine. The fluid inside the middle ear may need to be drained on occasion.

When fluid accumulates in the middle ear and does not resolve on its own or with therapy, it may need to be surgically removed. This is referred to as tympanocentesis. To drain fluid, a needle is inserted into the middle ear. Recurrent infections or chronic effusions (fluid that lasts at least three months) may need the placement of a tympanostomy tube into the tympanic membrane (eardrum), allowing the middle ear

to drain and function normally. The tubes are supposed to stay in place for a year before coming out on their own. Following this procedure, the eardrum usually heals and restores normal function.

Croup is a frequent illness among young children. Croup is caused by a number of viruses, and the symptoms are produced by inflammation of the upper airways, namely the larynx (voice box) and trachea (windpipe). Among the symptoms include a barking cough, stridor, and a wheeze on inspiration. The majority of children with croup may be treated at home, but in severe instances, hospitalization may be required. In more severe cases, therapy may include steroids and inhalation medications. Always visit your doctor if you are concerned if your child appears to be ill.

Coxsackie virus causes hand, foot, and mouth disease. It's pretty common in the summer and early fall, and it normally goes away on its own after about ten days. The virus causes fever, sore throat, and blisters inside the mouth, palms of the hands, and soles of the feet. Other than supportive care, which includes pain medicines, there is no medical