

Medication Effects Case Scenarios

1. Jimmy has been out sick for two days with an ear infection. Today, Jimmy's mother arrives and tells you that Jimmy is feeling better and can return to your program. She tells you that Jimmy is now taking amoxicillin to treat the ear infection. At 1:55 pm, you gave Jimmy his 2 pm dose of Amoxicillin. Around 2:30 pm Jimmy gets an upset stomach.
 - a. In this scenario, what is the desired effect of the amoxicillin?
cure the infection
 - b. What is the undesired effect?
upset stomach
 - c. What type of side effect is this?
mild side effect
 - d. What should you do?
Notify the parent. Emphasize to participants that the severity of the reaction will determine the urgency of contacting parents. Whenever in doubt, immediately notify the parent.

2. Kari has numerous allergies to medication including many antibiotics. She is taking an antibiotic called Septra® for an upper respiratory infection she's had for a week. Since the medication is given twice a day she is not getting any medication at the program. When her mother drops her off at 8 AM, she tells you that she gave Kari her AM dose about ½ hour ago. Her mom wants you to be on the lookout for any diarrhea since she had some last night. About 8:30AM you notice Kari itching at her face and hands. Looking closely, you see a faint red rash on Kari's face.
 - a. What type of side effect is this?
mild allergic reaction
 - b. What should you do?
Immediately notify the parent as she appears to be having an allergic reaction to the medication. Encourage the parent to contact the child's physician. If the reaction is severe or progresses to anaphylaxis, call 911 for emergency help.