

# Preventive Care

## **What is preventive care?**

Preventive care includes regular checkups and treats illness before the illness becomes serious and requires emergency care or hospitalization. Preventive care can lead to healthier children and therefore lower medical bills. It is better to take children to a doctor early before they get really sick.

## **Why should parents take their children to the doctor if they are not sick?**

Regular health care keeps everyone healthier. Regular medical visits are important for a child's physical development. If a condition such as an ear infection goes undetected, it could lead to permanent hearing loss.

Healthy children are exposed to others who may be sick and contagious (at school, church, stores, etc.). Having healthcare coverage allows parents to take their children to the doctor at the first signs of illness.