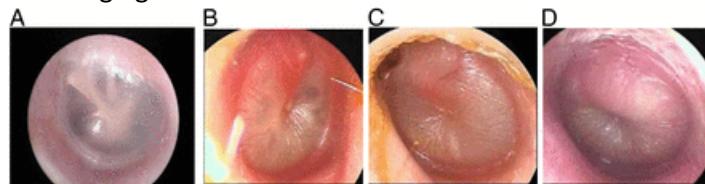


# Antibiotic Decision Making for Acute Otitis Media (AOM)

## Examining the Tympanic Membrane

Figure 2 below from the AAP Clinical Practice Guideline, [The diagnosis and management of acute otitis media](#), illustrates differing degrees of TM bulging:

- A. Normal TM
- B. TM with mild bulging
- C. TM with moderate bulging
- D. TM with severe bulging



*Image provided courtesy of Alejandro Hoberman, MD.*

For more visuals on TM bulging, see the NEJM video available titled Otoscopic Signs of Acute Otitis Media on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6DZJ6Q6N9s>.