Example of a nurse protocol sheet used to identify earache symptoms:[19]

**TELEMEDICINE NURSE PROTOCOL**

**Description:** Acute otitis media is usually preceded by URI symptoms of at least 2 days duration. Earaches can be due to an external otitis, particularly in the summer. Other sources of ear pain can be from teeth sources, cervical lymph nodes, sore throat, or the TM joint. Fever ear drainage, or decreased hearing may or may not be present.

**Physical Findings:**
- Pain with movement or external ear or tragus (external otitis)
- Tenderness underneath the external ear (Lymphadenitis)
- Ear drainage
- Tympanic Membrane opaque, red, decreased mobility

**Management:**

**EAR PAIN**

- No ear drainage
- No ear tenderness
- No history of URI
- No history or Chronic ear problems

**Toxic Child**

- Moderate or persistent pain
- Or ear drainage
- Or URI present
- Or fever
- And not toxic appearing

**Call parent for physician consult**

- Consultation needed
- Notify Parent
- TeleMed or private physician may be contacted

- Observation and consider acetaminophen
- Give Ped Advisor handout on ear pain
- Follow up next day