WHAT HAS EAR WAX GOT TO DO WITH ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER (ADD)? – A mother's cry

When Teresa was 4 yr old, she will have the TV loud
She will not answer right away when you call her
I thought she was stubborn
I will always have the pediatrician check her ear every annual physical
He would say everything was fine
This went on till she was 7 years
Her 2nd grade teacher started complaining that Teresa was not paying attention in class
What I could get from her was that she had ADD
She suggested psychiatric evaluation for Tess
Which my maternal instinct will not hear any of
I insisted to the pediatrician that Teresa had problem with her hearing
But each time they dismissed me and said nothing was wrong with her hearing or the ears
At one point, I took the bull by the horn and used the Otoscope and checked Teresa ears by myself
I could not see anything, but darkness and no light reflex
Her ears were smelling too
Soon after I took her to a community clinic where I worked part-time as a Nurse Practitioner
There we did an ear lavage
Lots of black discharge came out of Teresa ears
At that point I knew I was right
I called the pediatrician's office asking for my daughter to be referred to an ear specialist
The ENT specialist did ear suction and on this day I cried seeing all the junk that came out of my daughter's ear
I felt that she had been suffering for years
I told the specialist everything about the fact that the pediatrician would not listen to me
He said that some children produce excessive ear wax that affects their hearing
And Teresa happened to be one of those patients
They did hearing tests on Tess and she was fine
And I was relieved
But still felt guilt for not pushing harder when the pediatrician wound not listen to me
Following this, Teresa is now scheduled for quarterly ENT visit for ear lavage
After every ear lavage, Teresa will cover her ears for 2 days because every music is now too loud for her
Keep in mind this is somebody who used to turn the music loud to hear it
She will smile and give me a hug and say "Mom I can hear everything now!"
Her teacher never picked on her again
She will also tell us that Teresa is improving in class, but we did not tell her what we did for Teresa
Till now, she still goes for ear lavage regularly every 4 months
Her last one was this past September
Once in a while, we instill debrox, the ear wax remover, to help her clean out the ear canal
Needless to say Teresa is an A student now that she can hear.
Next time before you child is labelled ADD or put on medicine for ADD, have the ears checked first.

Mrs. Scholar Nwoke (nee Okorie) (BHO Contributor), NP, Doctor of Optometry

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