Diagnostic Dilemmas of CSOM (R766)

ID: 766.4

The Variable Clinical Presentation of Tuberculosis Otitis Media and the Importance of Early Detection

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Learning Objectives:

Introduction: Tuberculosis (TB) is a rare cause of otitis media. This study aims to increase awareness on the clinical presentation of TB otitis media and illustrate how early detection affects treatment outcome.

Methods: Chart review of 12 patients (13 ears) from a tertiary hospital in Manila, Philippines, seen from 2004 to 2009. Clinical predictors of the disease were summarized. Clinical, radiologic, and audiometric outcomes after treatment were compared between treatment groups.

Results: The 5 otoscopic presentations were multiple perforations, single perforation with refractory otorrhea and exuberant granulation tissue formation, single perforation with minimal otorrhea and no granulation tissue formation, intact tympanic membrane with middle ear effusion, and intact tympanic membrane with tumorlike tissue in the middle ear. Clinical predictors of the disease were history of pulmonary TB, work-related contamination of the infection, positive purified protein derivative test, positive chest radiographic finding and intraoperative granulation tissue with cheesy material, and temporal bone computed tomographic scan findings. Patients who had no middle ear surgery showed significantly better clinical, radiologic, and audiometric outcomes than those who were diagnosed late and had more complicated surgical procedure.

Conclusion: The clinical presentation of TB otitis media is variable. Early detection of the early forms entail less surgical intervention and favors better treatment results.

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Useful tips in ear surgery (V767)

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Tympanoplasty using Medio-Lateral Graft and Anterior Canal Skin for Anterior or Subtotal Tympanic Membrane Perforation

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Learning Objectives:

Introduction: Reconstruction of anterior or subtotal tympanic membrane perforation is challenging. The objectives of this study are to describe a medio-lateral graft tympanoplasty technique and use of anterior canal skin for reconstruction of anterior or subtotal tympanic membrane (TM) perforation and to analyze 20 years of experience using this graft method.

Method: This is a retrospective study of 400 patients who underwent the medio-lateral graft tympanoplasty for reconstruction of anterior or subtotal TM perforation during the past twenty years. The main outcome measure was intact TM. In this method temporalis fascia or perichondrium is grafted medial to posterior TM, malleus handle and posterior half of the perforation and lateral to anterior half of the de-epithelialized TM perforation up to the annulus. Anterior canal skin is rotated as superiorly based flap to cover fascia graft and TM perforation as a second layer closure. Outcome was considered successful if TM is intact.

Results: There were twelve failures (97% success rate) due to a postoperative infection, anterior blunting, or recurrent cholesteatoma.

Conclusion: The medio-lateral graft method is superior to the traditional medial or lateral graft technique for the large anterior or subtotal TM perforation taking advantage of both medial and lateral grafting method while avoiding their pitfalls.