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The role of pediatric tympanoplasty in modern otology

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Objective: Aim of this study is to determine the minimum age, influencing factors and prognostic significance of tympanometric volume for pediatric tympanoplasty type I in a select age-group of five to eight years.

Methods: A prospective study was conducted in 30 children with chronic suppurative otitis media-inactive mucosal disease of either sex. The contralateral ear was taken as a measure of eustachian tube function. Pre-operative tympanometric volume was recorded in all the cases and statistically analyzed with the graft uptake results post-operatively. All the patients underwent tympanoplasty type I by underlay technique using temporalis fascia graft. An intact graft at the end of six months, and a postoperative hearing improvement of 10 dB or greater in two consecutive frequencies, was regarded as surgical and audiological success, respectively. The statistical analysis was done using Mantel Haenszel² i.e. Chi square test, and Fisher exact p value test for confirmation.

Results: We recorded an impressive surgical success rate of 87% and an audiological improvement of 70% in this study. No significant role for eustachian tube was found in this study. On the basis of mean tympanometric volume of 1.6 cm³, the patients were divided into two groups: Group A (tympanometric volume < 1.6 cm³), and group B (tympanometric volume > 1.6 cm³). A graft uptake of 95% and 77% was recorded in group A and B respectively. However, the statistical evaluation of the data revealed no significant effect of this factor.

Conclusions: We observed that graft uptake results are comparable to adults in pediatric patients as eustachian tube has no distinct role. In this study, no correlation between the tympanometric volume and the surgical success of pediatric tympanoplasty in selected age group of 5-8 years was observed.

Biography

Gautam Bir Singh completed his Post-graduation in Otolaryngology - Head & Neck surgery (1997) from Pt. Bhagwat Dayal Sharma Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Rohtak, Haryana, India. He also underwent short term training at AIIMS, New Delhi. He is currently working as Professor at Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated Hospitals, New Delhi. He has 48 indexed international publications to his credit and has presented/co-presented 18 scientific papers and 25 posters at various national/international conferences. He is also an Editorial Board Member of *Journal Clinics in Surgery*, *Journal of Otolaryngology and Heighpubs Otolaryngology and Rhinology*.

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