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## Tympanometric findings in cleft palate patients: Influence of age and cleft type

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**Objective:** Conductive hearing loss associated with otitis media with effusion is usually finding in cleft lip and palate children.

**Method:** Tympanometry performed in 57 children with bilateral (BCLP), 122 unilateral cleft lip and palate (UCLP) and 60 children with isolated cleft palate(ICP) according to age sub-groups, median age of groups 5y. All children undergo no previous ear surgery and undergo standard method of cheilognathopalatoplasty.

**Results:** B type is most frequent in ICP (58.3%) less in UCLP (50.6%) and lowest in BCLP (46.5%). UCLP children show higher decrease B type ears with aging ( $rs=-0.4430$ ) than BCLP ( $rs=-0.3186$ ) and ICP( $rs=-0.3378$ ). Moderate hearing ears (21-40dB) showed highest decrease of B type with aging, lower decrease ( $rs=0.2184$ ) have ears with mid threshold 11-20dB and lowest showed ears with severe hearing loss. At age 1-3y UCLP have higher rate of B type ears than BCLP and ICP which start to decrease at age 7-12y. At BCLP B type ears increase in frequency at age 4-6y. In ICP patients decrease in B type is not significant until 15y when first decrease showed. Type A is typical for older ages while B types for younger ages with significant decrease at age 4-6y and 7-9y no ear side difference. BCLP showed increase at 4-6y and the slowest decrease than other types.

**Conclusion:** Cleft types due to craniofacial characteristics with aging have different mode of pathophysiological changes of middle ear disease.

### Biography

Jadranka Handzic graduated in 1984 at Medical School University of Zagreb and PhD in 1989. Since 1987, she spent her residential program of Otolaryngology than diploma at 1989 as specialist of Otolaryngology and 2003 as sub-specialist of Audiology. At 2000-2001 she spent academic year on Fulbright Scholarship at Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Centre and Dental School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh and Children's Hospital Pittsburgh USA Department for Paediatric Otolaryngology, University of Pittsburgh, USA at position as Adjunct Associate Professor of Oral Medicine and Pathology and at 2001-2002 as Visiting Assistant Professor at Department of Oral Medicine and Pathology, Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Centre, Dental School of Medicine, University of Pittsburgh, USA. 2001-2002 she had Lester Hamburg- Research Fellowship in Department for Paediatric Otolaryngology Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Medical School University of Pittsburgh, USA. From 2002 she was Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology, University Clinical Hospital Centre and Medical School "Zagreb" and from 2008 Professor of Otolaryngology and Audiology. She is author and co-author of 16 articles in *Current Contents*, lecturer of 30 presentations on international conferences, reviewer in Journal and Annals of Maxillofacial Surgery, Director of 7 post-graduate studies of Otolaryngology and Audiology, author and co-author of 4 books, author of 3 international projects.

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