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Management of discharging ear in children

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Objective: To evaluate the success rate of tympanoplasty type-1 in a selected pediatric age group of 5 to 8 years and thereby analyze the factors suggested influencing the outcome of the said surgery.

Study Design: A prospective control study. 60 patients of chronic suppurative otitis media-inactive mucosal disease of either sex were divided into two groups of 30 each; Group-A [pediatrics, 5-8 years] and Group-B [adults, >14 years]. All the patients underwent tympanoplasty type-1 by underlay technique using temporalis fascia graft. The data pertaining to surgical and audiological success was tabulated and statistically analyzed using Mantel Haenszel X2 i.e., Chi square test and Fisher exact p value test for confirmation.

Results: We recorded an impressive surgical success rate of 87% in Group-A compared to a 90% success rate for group-B. Also, an audiological success of 69% and 78% was recorded in the pediatric and adult group, respectively. Statistical analysis of the data revealed that age, status of the contralateral ear (taken as a measure of function of the Eustachian tube) and size of the perforation are not significant factors which might influence the outcome of pediatric tympanoplasty but the site of the perforation was found to be a significant factor for the said surgery with anterior perforations recording a poor success rate.

Conclusions: Tympanoplasty type-1 with underlay grafting using temporalis fascia in children aged between 5 to 8 years gives good anatomical and functional results.

Biography

Gautam Bir Singh is a Permanent Life Member of Association of Otolaryngologist of India. He is currently working in the Department of ENT & Head-Neck Surgery at Lady Hardinge Medical College and Associate Hospitals, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Marg.

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