

# My ear itches and my kid always has the sinus!

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# Outline

- External auditory canal pruritis
  - Otitis Externa
  - Chronic Dermatitis
  - Isolated EAC pruritis
  - Lichen Planus
- Pediatric sinus disease
  - Indications for sinus surgery
  - Definition of chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS)
  - Medical management
  - Surgical management
  - Conclusions

# My ear itches doc!

- **Otitis externa**
- **Dermatitis**
- **Idiopathic**
- **Lichen Planus**
- Psoriasis
- Dermatomycosis
- Dermatophytid reaction

# Otitis externa

- External auditory canal (EAC) only skin lined cul-de-sac in the body
- Prone to becoming moist, excellent for bacterial and fungal growth
- Thin skin
- Easily traumatized
- Cerumen acidic coat containing lysozymes and other substances that inhibit bacterial/fungal growth
  - Hydrophobic and prevents water from penetrating skin and causing maceration

# Otitis Externa

- Too little cerumen can predispose to infection
- Too much cerumen can be obstructing
- Excessive moisture elevates pH and removes cerumen
- Keratin debris absorbs water and creates good environment for bacterial/fungal growth

# Otitis externa

- Avoid water exposure
- Possible ear wick placement
- Ciprodex ear drops
  - Steroids to decrease inflammation
  - Antibiotic to fight bacteria
- Aural toilet
- Need for oral/IV if topical fails or severe infections
- Future prevention
  - Recommend water precautions
  - Discuss q-tip/excessive ear cleaning

# Contact Dermatitis

- Protective layers of EAC removed by q-tip/aggressive ear cleaning
- EAC skin thin and vulnerable to penetration of haptens
- Multiple sensitizations with chemicals from hair products can cause allergic dermatitis can lead to inflammatory process
- Inflammation can reduce/halt cerumen production



# Contact Dermatitis

- Avoid q-tips
- Avoid water exposure in the ear canals
  - Avoid swimming
  - Avoid dunking head during bath
  - Cotton ball with Vaseline for shower
- Consider changing to free and clear shampoo/conditioner/hair product
- Ear plugs for swimming
- May need to change hearing aid mold if wears hearing aids

# Contact Dermatitis

- Oral antihistamines
- Acetic acid 2-4%
- Mineral oil
- Topical steroids
  - Betamethasone BID for 7 days
  - Recommend taking a 3 week break in between applications
  - Concern for ear canal skin thinning

# Contact Dermatitis

- Topical pimecrolimus
  - MOA
    - Inhibit T cell activation
    - Prevent release of inflammatory mediators and cytokines
  - Effective for atopic dermatitis and nonatopic pruritis
  - Low side effect profile: 1% risk of epidermal thinning
  - Less skin penetration

# Evidence for Pimecrolimus

- Djalilian et al performed retrospective study
  - 36 patients with pruritis EAC failed topical and system steroids treated with pimecrolimus for 3 months.
  - Control group 19 patients only performed aural toilet only 3 weeks
  - 94% in treatment group compared to 16% in control group had resolution of symptoms
  - No side effects of treatment
  - 2 failed patients
    - Atopic dermatitis
      - Treated with oral doxepin hydrochloride in combination with topical pimecrolimus
      - Only pruritic with high humidity improved with acetic acid drops

# Evidence for Pimecrolimus

- FDA recommendations
  - Noted risk of possible cancer associated with high dose prolonged use found in animal studies
  - Use as second line agent short term and intermittent treatment of atopic dermatitis unresponsive to other treatments
  - Avoid in children younger than 2
  - Avoid in immune compromised patients
- European Dermatology Forum
  - No increased carcinogenic risk after comprehensive review of animal studies

# Isolated itching of the EAC

- Mostly in middle aged women
- Acar et al performed a prospective case control study of 24 patients undergoing evaluation of contact dermatitis of the EAC and 24 controls
- A single blinded dermatopathologists performed histopathology evaluation of all biopsies
- Biopsy results did not support diagnosis of dermatitis
- Consider other causes—somatization disorder

# Lichen planus

- EUA: smooth firm whitish papules and granulation tissue
- Middle age adults
- Caused by T-cell mediated immune response of unknown origin
- May be found in patients that have ulcerative colitis, alopecia areata, vitiligo, dermatomyositis, morphea, lichen sclerosis, myasthenia gravis
- Treatment—topical steroids and/or oral
- Immunosuppressant—tacrolimus
- Surgery

# Key Points For EAC Pruritis

- Counsel on avoidance of aggressive ear cleaning
- Counsel regarding avoidance of contact allergens or changing hair products
- Avoid or limit water exposure
- Trial treatment with topical therapy, acetic acid, mineral oil, floxin drops, topical steroid, or topical immunosuppressant
- If concerning lesions are present or no improvement with obvious inflammation present recommend biopsy



# Pediatric Chronic Rhinosinusitis

# Pediatric Sinonasal Disorders

- Indications for sinus surgery
- Definition of chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS)
- Medical management
- Surgical management
- Conclusions

# Indications for surgery in children

- Massive nasal polyposis causing obstruction
- Mucocele or mucopyocele
- Antrachoanal polyp
- Invasive fungal sinusitis
- Complications of acute sinusitis: orbital, intracranial
- **Chronic rhinosinusitis refractory to medical management**
  - A controversial subject

# Definition of CRS in Children

- 2 or more symptoms
  - One of the following symptoms
    - Nasal blockage/obstruction/congestion
    - Nasal discharge anterior or posterior nasal drip
  - One of the following symptoms
    - Facial pressure/pain
    - Cough
    - Endoscopic evidence of sinus disease or relevant changes on CT scan
- Symptoms >12 weeks

# Medical Management

# Medical management

- 1<sup>st</sup> line optimal medical therapy
  - Topical nasal steroids
  - Saline nasal irrigation
    - Antibiotic nasal irrigation
      - One teaspoon of bactroban ointment in one Neil med bottle
  - Long-term oral antibiotics
    - Duration for “maximum medical therapy” unclear

# Medical management

- Consultations
  - Allergist
    - Allergy work up
    - Immune work up
      - Immunodeficiency
      - Non-responders for vaccines
  - Pulmonologist
    - Asthma
    - Cystic Fibrosis
    - Ciliary dyskinesia or dysmotility



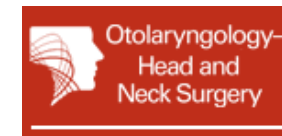
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# Table 3. Medical Management of Pediatric Chronic Rhinosinusitis (PCRS) Statements Reaching Consensus.

**Table 3.** Medical Management of Pediatric Chronic Rhinosinusitis (PCRS) Statements Reaching Consensus.

| Number | Statement  | Mean | Outliers | Quality Improvement Opportunity        |
|--------|--|------|----------|--|
| 9      | Twenty consecutive days of antibiotic therapy may produce a superior clinical response in PCRS patients compared to 10 days of antibiotic therapy. | 7.44 | 0        | Promoting appropriate care             |
| 10     | Culture-directed antibiotic therapy may improve outcomes for PCRS patients who have not responded to empiric antibiotic therapy.                   | 8    | 0        | Promoting appropriate care             |
| 11     | Daily, topical nasal steroids are a beneficial adjunctive medical therapy for PCRS.  | 7.44 | 0        | Promoting appropriate care             |
| 12     | Daily, topical nasal saline irrigations are a beneficial adjunctive medical therapy for PCRS.  | 7.78 | 0        | Promoting appropriate care             |
| 13     | Empiric treatment for gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) is not a beneficial adjunctive medical therapy for PCRS.                              | 7    | 0        | Reducing inappropriate or harmful care |

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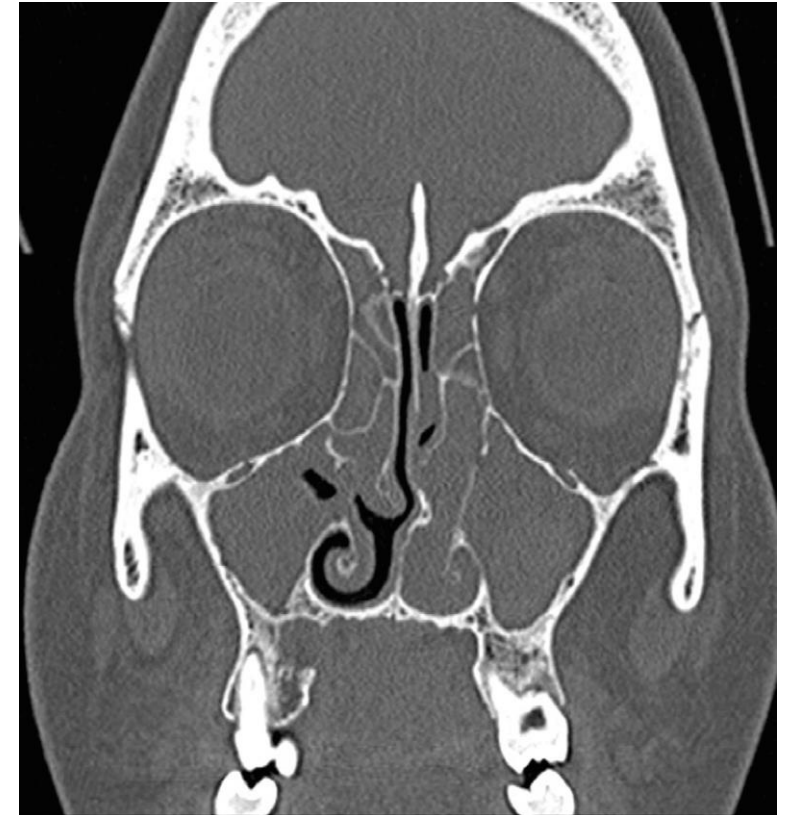
# Oral Appliance?

- Case series of 3 Korean children with history of CRS
- Imaging revealed narrow maxillary arches and crowding of mandibular teeth, sinus opacification, mucosal thickening
- Biomimetic oral appliance prescribed for 12-16h per day
  - Late afternoon and during sleep
  - Partly in line with circadian rhythm of tooth eruption
  - Adjusted monthly
- After 10 months reported better sleep and nasal breathing
- Follow up imaging showed fully aerated sinus
- Further research is needed, but may be considered in future management of CRS prior to surgery.

# Surgical Management

# CT Lund-Mackay Staging System

|                         | 0=clear | 1=partial occlusion | 2=complete occlusion |
|-------------------------|---------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Left maxillary          |         |                     |                      |
| Left OMC                |         | N/A                 |                      |
| Left anterior ethmoid   |         |                     |                      |
| Left posterior ethmoid  |         |                     |                      |
| Left sphenoid           |         |                     |                      |
| Left frontal            |         |                     |                      |
| Right maxillary         |         |                     |                      |
| Right OMC               |         | N/A                 |                      |
| Right anterior ethmoid  |         |                     |                      |
| Right posterior ethmoid |         |                     |                      |
| Right sphenoid          |         |                     |                      |
| Right frontal           |         |                     |                      |



\*Most available points is 24

# Surgical options

- Adenoidectomy only
- Adenoidectomy w/sinus wash + PO/IV antibiotics
- Endoscopic Sinus Surgery (ESS) +/- adenoidectomy

# Adenoidectomy

- Size is not a factor
- Biofilms
- Bacterial reservoir



# Adenoidectomy

- Success Rate Varies Widely
  - Takahashi 1989 – 56% success rate (CRS by Sx only)
  - Vandenberg 1997 – (CRS by failed Abx)
    - 58% success based on complete or near-total resolution
    - 80% success if include “at least some long-term improvement”
  - Ramadan 2004 – 52% success rate (CRS by CT and failed Abx)
- Overall, the “exact” success rate is unclear
  - F/U varies in length and technique
  - Some use PE +/- CT
  - Some only use phone calls

# Adenoidectomy

- Adenoidectomy Failures
  - 2007 Ramadan
    - Retrospective review
    - 121 children had adenoidectomy for CRS, 61(50%) failed
      - Failure = continued Sx and CT findings despite medical management
    - Reviewed age, sex, +/-asthma, +/-allergy status, CT score (Lund-Mackay)
    - Asthma and Age ≤6 were the only variables that increased risk of failure
      - These children failed earlier
      - Others variables did not correlate in this study

# Adenoidectomy with sinus wash + IV antibiotics

- 1999 Buchman et al (Yellon, Bluestone)
  - CT proven disease, refractory to 1+ months oral Abx
  - 27 patients - sinus wash, culture via inferior meatus, and IV Abx
    - 10 also had adenoidectomy, 6 had prior adenoidectomy
  - 89% resolution while on IV Abx
  - 57% had recurrent RS episode(s) requiring PO Abx after stopping IV Abx
  - Complications: Superficial thrombophlebitis (7%), diarrhea (7%), intravenous catheter guide-wire kink requiring venotomy (4%), and serum sickness-like syndrome (4%)
- 2006 Adappa et al
  - 89% long-term resolution(at least 1 year follow up)



# Adenoidectomy with sinus wash + PO antibiotics

- 2007 Ramadan
  - 32 patients - adenoidectomy, sinus wash, and 2 weeks PO Abx
    - 88% success at 12 mo F/U
    - Asthmatics and CT>6 showed statistically improved success in this group
  - 28 patients - adenoidectomy and 2 weeks PO Abx (no wash)
    - 60% success at 12 mo F/U
  - Wash technique
    - 18-g needle bent at 45 through natural os using 30 deg scope
    - 3-5 cc saline flushed

# Adenoidectomy with sinus wash + PO antibiotics

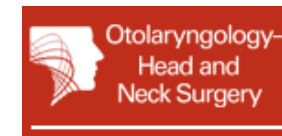
- 2008 Criddle
  - 23 children had adenoidectomy with a sinus wash for CRS
  - Two PO Abx were given for a range of 2-10 weeks after surgery (Avg. 5.8)
  - 78% achieved resolution of symptoms without IV Abx
  - 95% achieved resolution when excluding those with immunodeficiencies

## Table 4. Adenoidectomy/Adenoiditis Statements Reaching Consensus.

**Table 4.** Adenoidectomy/Adenoiditis Statements Reaching Consensus.

| Number | Statement  | Mean | Outliers | Quality Improvement Opportunity                  |
|--------|--|------|----------|--|
| 18     | Adenoidectomy is an effective first line surgical procedure for children up to 6 years of age with chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS). | 8.33 | 0        | Promoting appropriate care                       |
| 19     | Adenoidectomy is an effective first-line surgical procedure for children aged 6 to 12 years with CRS.                            | 7.11 | 1        | Promoting appropriate care                       |
| 20     | Adenoidectomy can have a beneficial effect in patients with pediatric CRS that is independent of endoscopic sinus surgery (ESS). | 7.33 | 1        | Educating and empowering clinicians and patients |
| 21     | Tonsillectomy (without adenoidectomy) is ineffective treatment for PCRS.   | 8.56 | 0        | Reducing inappropriate or harmful care           |

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# Endoscopic Sinus Surgery (ESS)

- Widely accepted in adults
- Less enthusiasm for children
  - Concern for growth retardation of face
    - Animal studies showed growth lagged behind non-operated side
    - Human studies no impact over 10 year period
      - Senior et al 2000 and Bothwell et al 2002
      - Bothwell et al no statistically significant difference with or without FESS using quantitative anthropomorphic analysis after 13.2year follow up

# Endoscopic Sinus Surgery

- 2004 Ramadan
  - 10 year **non-randomized** prospective study
  - 1850 children referred for surgical opinion
  - Inclusion: Failed Abx, steroids, allergy Tx, and GERD Tx
    - Symptoms for 6 months
  - **202/1850 were surgical candidates (11%)**
  - 19 patients refused surgery or were lost to follow up
  - 183 surgical patients analyzed (10% of all referred)
    - Adenoidectomy only vs ESS only vs ESS/A

TABLE III.  
Univariate Analysis of Success of Three Procedures (N = 183).

| Variable                        | ESS/A     | ESS      | Adenoidectomy |
|---------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------------|
| No. of patients                 | 79        | 40       | 64            |
| No. (%) needing further surgery | 6 (7.6)   | 5 (12.5) | 16 (25)       |
| No. with no improved symptoms   | 4         | 5        | 15            |
| No. (%) with success            | 69 (87.3) | 30 (75)  | 33 (51.6)     |

ESS/A = endoscopic sinus surgery with adenoidectomy; ESS = endoscopic sinus surgery alone.

- **Age**

- **≥6**

- Surgical success 84%; revision rate 4.3%
    - ESS/A 96% success, better than ESS alone 79% and adenoidectomy alone 67%
    - ESS vs. A not significant

- **<6**

- Surgical success 59.5% ; revision rate 22.5%
    - No stat difference b/w ESS/A ESS and A

- **Asthma**

- ESS/A and ESS better than just A

- **Smoke Exposure**

- 27% exposed to smoke
- ESS/A and ESS only better results than A only

- **CT results**

- Lund-Mackay >4 best with ESS/A > ESS only >adenoid only (sig)
- Lund-Mackay <4 no stat sig difference b/w groups

- **Conclusions**

- A alone: age <6, no asthma and low CT scores
- ESS/A: Asthma, >6 with high CT scores after repeated positive scans
- Smoking poor predictor of surgical outcome



# Table 5. Endoscopic Sinus Surgery/Turbinoplasty Statements Reaching Consensus.

**Table 5.** Endoscopic Sinus Surgery/Turbinoplasty Statements Reaching Consensus.

|    | Statement   | Mean | Outliers | Quality Improvement Opportunity                  |
|----|---|------|----------|--|
| 23 | Endoscopic sinus surgery (ESS) is an effective procedure for treating pediatric chronic rhinosinusitis (PCRS) that is best performed after medical therapy, adenoidectomy, or both have failed. | 7.89 | 0        | Promoting appropriate care                       |
| 24 | A CT scan of the paranasal sinuses is indicated prior to ESS to assess structure, development, and extent of disease.   | 8.56 | 0        | Promoting appropriate care                       |
| 25 | Image-guided ESS is useful for revision ESS cases and/or for patients with extensive nasal polyposis that can distort anatomical landmarks.   | 8.22 | 1        | Promoting appropriate care                       |
| 26 | There is a lack of convincing evidence that ESS causes a clinically significant impairment of facial growth when performed in children with CRS.  | 7    | 0        | Educating and empowering clinicians and patients |
| 27 | Postoperative debridement after ESS for PCRS is not essential for treatment success.  | 7    | 1        | Reducing inappropriate or harmful care           |
| 28 | The effectiveness of balloon sinuplasty compared to traditional ESS for PCRS cannot be determined based on current evidence   | 7.89 | 0        | Reducing inappropriate or harmful care           |

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# Prognostic Factors for Revision ESS

- Retrospective review of 188 children who underwent ESS 2004 to 2017
- 12.8% required revision
- Multivariate logistic regression identified the following as poor prognostic factors
  - Younger age (cut off was 15.68 years)
  - Nasal allergy
  - Higher Lund-Mackay score on pre-op CT
- Surprisingly did not identify asthma or smoke exposure?

# Key Points for Pediatric Sinonasal Disorders

- Optimize medical management
- Counsel families regarding smoking cessation
- Allergy and Pulmonology work up
- Adenoidectomy
  - 1<sup>st</sup> line
  - Addition of PO antibiotics and sinus wash
- Endoscopic Sinus surgery
  - Consider first line in older patients (>6), higher CT scores and asthma

# Key Points

## Surgical Options

- Adenoidectomy
  - $\leq 6$  years old, no asthma, cough not a major symptom
  - If a CT is done,  $LM \leq 2$  great candidates,  $LM < 5$  good candidates
- Adenoidectomy with Sinus Wash + PO Antibiotics
  - $\leq 6$  years old with asthma and/or  $CT \geq 5$
- Endoscopic Sinus Surgery with Adenoidectomy
  - $> 6$  years old with asthma and/or  $CT \geq 5$
- Somewhat Gray Area if CT is 3-4

Questions????