

Special Issue

Diagnosis and Management of Otitis Media

Message from the Guest Editors

Otitis media in its different clinical forms (acute otitis media (AOM), otitis media with effusion (OME), chronic purulent otitis, and chronic otitis with cholesteatoma) has a significant incidence in both adult and pediatric populations. It is estimated that more than 80% of children may experience one or more episodes of AOM in the first three years of life, whereas chronic otitis media is more common in the adult population, with an estimated incidence of 5% in the general population, leading in most cases to hearing loss. Classical management includes medical therapy for acute cases and surgery in chronic patients.

Recent research has disclosed the important preventative role of probiotics in acute and chronic otitis media, and the role of the nasal microbiome has been increasingly studied and linked to ear pathology. It has been discovered that dental malocclusion treatment plays a role in otitis media prevention. In chronic otitis media, tympanoplasty is still a matter of controversy. The size and location of the perforation, the surgical technique, and the graft type are related to surgical outcomes.

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