

## Lecture (1)

# Microbiology of middle ear infection



Color  
guide:

- Very important
- Additional information
- Male doctor's notes
- Female doctor's notes

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**Note: Please make sure that you study the last 3 slides very carefully**



Lecture (1)

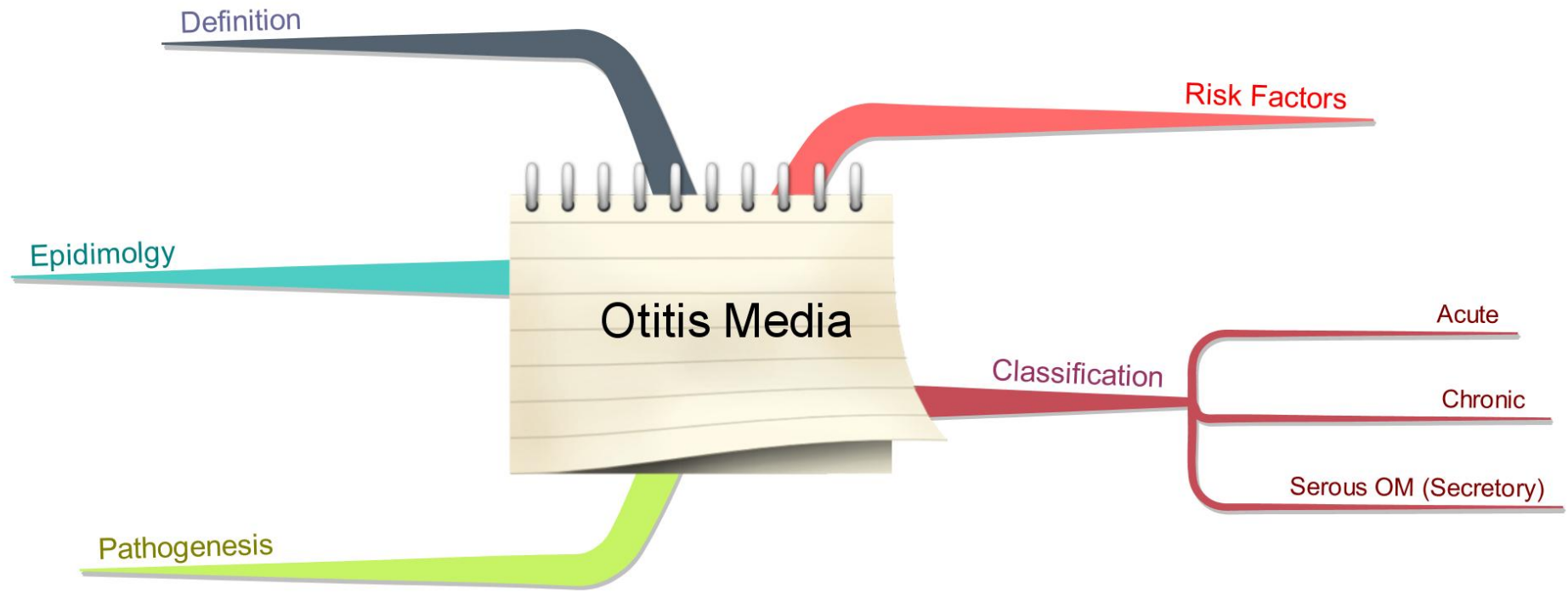
# Microbiology of middle ear infection

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## Objectives:

1. Define middle ear infection
2. Know the classification of otitis media (OM).
3. Know the epidemiology of OM
4. Know the pathogenesis & risk factors of OM.
5. List the clinical features of OM.
6. Know the diagnostic approaches of OM.
7. Know the management of OM.
8. Recall common complications of OM.

# Mind map (middle ear infection)

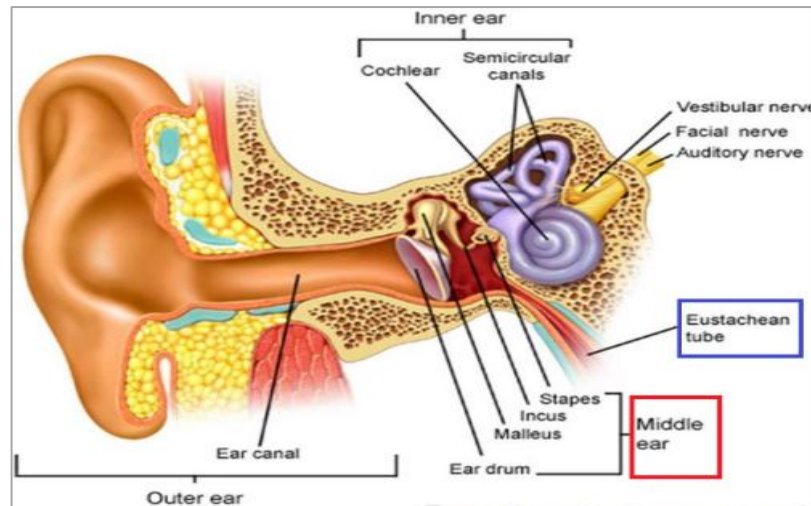


## Microbiology of meddle ear infection ( Oitits Media )

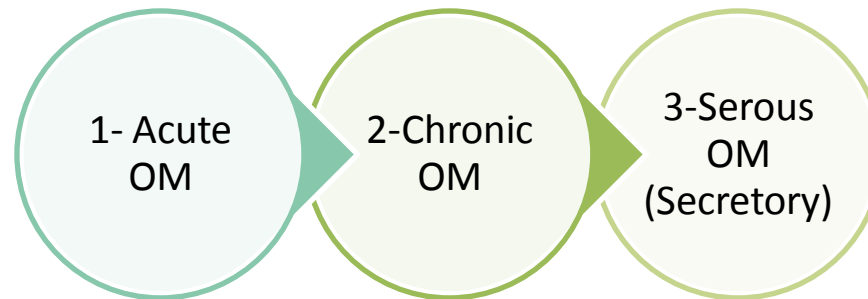
### Definition :

- **Oitits Media (OM)** is the inflammation of middle ear  
**Middle ear** is the area between tympanic membrane  
 & inner ear including \*Eustachian tube

\*Eustachian tube : is a tube that links the nasopharynx to the middle ear. It is a part of the middle ear and function as Pressure equalization .



## Classification :



## Epidemiology :

- **Most common in infants 6 – 18 months old ( 2/3 of cases )** , because of :
  - **the Eustachian tube** is shorter and at more of a **horizontal** angle than in the adult ear, so it is **difficult to drain naturally** ( big chance to develop bacteria ) , Surface of Eustachian Tube consists of cartilage and lymphatic tissue lining is an extension of adenoidal tissue from the back of the nose. (adenoid = nasopharyngeal tonsil)
- Improves with age ( because of weakness of immune system in childhood )
- It is accompanied by **VIRAL UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS (URTI)**

## Pathogenesis:

- URTI or allergic conditions could cause **Edema** and **Inflammation** of the tube
- OM causes disturbed functions ( Ventilation - Protection - Clearance ) of the tube
- **negative pressure** due to oxygen loss (no air in middle ear because of inflammation)
- Pathogens from nasopharynx will enter into the middle ear **leading to Colonization & infection**

## Risk Factors:

- Anatomical abnormality
- Medical conditions such as : cleft palate - obstruction because of:
  - a) Enlarged (please check) adenoid
  - b) Nasogastric Tube
  - c) Malignancy
  - d) Immune dysfunction
- **Exposure to pathogens from day care**
- Exposure to smoking (Destroys the cilia).

## Acute OM :

First 1-2  
days:

- Fever (39 C) - irritability - earache - muffled nose
- Bulging tympanic membrane
- poor mobility
- obstruction by fluid or inflammatory cells on otoscopic examination.

3-8  
days

- Spontaneous discharge of Pus + ear exudative
- Decrease in pain and fever

2-4  
weeks:

- Healing phase
- discharge ends
- hearing returns normal

## Chronic OM :

- Usually occurs as result of untreated acute infection due to inadequate treatment or host factors that perpetuate the inflammatory process.
- Involves perforation of tympanic membrane and long period of active bacterial infection.
- Pus may drain to the outside (otorrhea).
- It lead to destruction of middle ear structures and significant risk of permanent hearing loss.



## Serous (Secretory) :

- Collection of fluid within the middle ear as a result of negative pressure produced by altered eustachian tube function.
- Represent a form of chronic OM or allergy-related inflammation.
- Over weeks to months, middle ear fluid become very thick and glue like( *glue ear*)
- Tends to be chronic with non-purulent (pus) secretions .
- Cause conductive hearing impairment.





OM	Acute		Chronic	Serous (Secretory)
Causes	Mostly bacterial <i>S.Pneumoniae</i> , <i>H.influenzae</i>		Mixed Flora (40% of cases) e.g. <i>P.aeruginosa</i> , <i>H.influenzae</i> , <i>S.aureus</i>	Same as chronic OM, Except: most effusions are <b>sterile</b>
	< 3 month of age	>3 month of age		
	Gram -ve bacteria <i>P.Aeruginosa</i>	<i>S.pyogenes</i> <i>Moraxella catarrhalis</i> <i>S.Aureus</i>		
Diagnostic approaches of OM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical examination by otoscope (reddish bulged tympanic membrane).</li> <li>Tympanometry ( detect the presence of fluid)</li> <li>Gram stain and culture of aspirated fluid to determine the etiologic agents.</li> </ul>			
Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antimicrobial usually empirical depending on the most likely bacterial pathogens, usually cover <i>S.pneumonia</i> and <i>H.influenzae</i>.</li> <li>Amoxicillin is commonly used to treat OM.</li> <li>Drainage of exudate may be required.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>need complex management, possibly surgical</li> </ul>	
Complications				
Extracranial			Intracranial	
Hearing loss Tympanic membrane perforation Mastoiditis (Osteomyelitis)			- <b>Meningitis</b> - Extradural abscess - Brain abscess	- Subdural empyema

## Summary

- \* **Otitis media**, is inflammation of the middle ear and commonly affects the Eustachian tube .
- \* It can be acute, chronic or serous.
- \* **infants 6 – 18 months old** are more susceptible to this condition and one theory is that this is because the Eustachian tube is shorter and at more of a horizontal angle than in the adult ear.
- \* **Generally, the most common organisms Causing Otitis Media** are the normal Flora of the Upper Respiratory tract ( pharynx ) .
- \* **The most common etiology of acute OM** are Streptococcus **Pneumoniae** and **Haemophilus influenzae**.
- \* **The most common Virus Causing OM is Respiratory Syncytial virus (RSV)**.
- \* **Chronic Otitis Media results from** untreated acute infection. It is caused by **mixed flora** in 40% of Chronic OM cases. Other organisms like **Pseudomonas aeruginosa** and **Anaerobes** also become likely to cause it.
- \* **Acute OM** : infection with fever ,pus and ear pain within 7 days .

- \* **Chronic OM** : No fever within 4 months and diagnostic by examination
- \* **Secretory OM** : NO infection , fluid and ear pain - Tends to be chronic, with non –purulent secretions
- \* **Risk factor** : anatomical abnormality , smoking ,hospital workers .
- \* **Complication** : Meningitis , Tympanic membrane perforation , Mastoiditis (Osteomyelitis)
- \* **Management of Acute Otitis media is usually empirical. Amoxicillin with clavulanic acid “ Augmentin”** is very effective and it is commonly used .
- \* **In general treatment:** drain abscess Ampicillin, cefuroxime“ zinnat “
- \* **On otoscop for acut OM** : 1-redness 2-no contraction 3- bulging of tympanic membrane .
- \*the golden standard for diagnosis is culture
- \*the period treatment for chronic OM is 15 days .
- \* Immunocompromised patient present with no fever even if it was acute OM .

## Questions

**1. What is the most common epidemiology of OM ?**

- A : adults
- B : elderly people
- C : teenagers
- D : infants

**2. What is the most dangerous complication of OM ?**

- A : UTU
- B : Meningitis
- C : Sinusitis
- D : Sore throat

**3. What is the most common organism causing OM ?**

- A : staph.coccus
- B : strept.pneumonia
- C : h.influenza
- D : b and C

**4. What is the main complaints about OM ?**

- A: fatigue
- B : Fever
- C: pain
- D : B and C

Qs	answer
1	D
2	B
3	D
4	D

Shade to see the answers



For any problems and suggestions please contact:

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Thank you