

Summary of findings:


38. Topical quinolone with steroids compared to topical quinolone without steroids for chronic suppurative otitis media

Patient or population: Adults (>18 years) with chronic suppurative otitis media

Setting: Primary health care.

Intervention: Topical quinolone with steroids (Ofloxacin 0.3% and dexamethasone 0.1% combination, 12 drops, twice daily for 10 days).

Comparison: Topical quinolone without steroids (Ofloxacin 0.3%, 12 drops twice daily for 10 days).

Outcome № of participants (studies)	Relative effect (95% CI)	Anticipated absolute effects (95% CI)			Quality	What happens
		Without Topical quinolone with steroids	With Topical quinolone with steroids	Difference		
Clinical cure assessed with: otoscopy follow up: mean 15 days № of participants: 105 (1 RCT) ^{1,a}	RR 0.88 (0.67 to 1.15)	71.2%	62.6% (47.7 to 81.8)	8.5% fewer (NS) (23.5 fewer to 10.7 more)	 LOW ^b	In patients with CSOM treated with topical quinolones + steroids compared to topical quinolone only there is possibly no difference in clinical cure at 15 days follow-up. NNT Not Applicable

*The risk in the intervention group (and its 95% confidence interval) is based on the assumed risk in the comparison group and the **relative effect** of the intervention (and its 95% CI).

CI: Confidence interval; RR: Risk ratio; NS: Not significant; NNT: Number needed to treat; NNH: Number needed to harm

GRADE Working Group grades of evidence

High quality: We are very confident that the true effect lies close to that of the estimate of the effect

Moderate quality: We are moderately confident in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be close to the estimate of the effect, but there is a possibility that it is substantially different

Low quality: Our confidence in the effect estimate is limited: The true effect may be substantially different from the estimate of the effect

Very low quality: We have very little confidence in the effect estimate: The true effect is likely to be substantially different from the estimate of effect

Explanations

a. Study: Panchasara 2015

b. Imprecision: Small, single study. Rated down by two.

References

1. Panchasara A, Singh A, Mandavia D, Jha S, Tripathi C. Efficacy and safety of ofloxacin and its combination with dexamethasone in chronic suppurative otitis media. A randomised, double blind, parallel group, comparative study. Acta otorhinolaryngologica Italica : organo ufficiale della Societa italiana di otorinolaringologia e chirurgia cervico-facciale. 2015;35(1):39-44. Epub 2015/05/28. PubMed PMID: 26015650; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4443576.