TITLE: Middle Ear Implants for Moderate Hearing Loss: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines

DATE: 09 October 2012

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of middle ear implants for patients with moderate hearing loss?

2. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the use of middle ear implants for patients with moderate hearing loss?

KEY MESSAGE

One health technology assessment report, one systematic review, and sixteen non-randomized studies were identified regarding the clinical effectiveness of middle ear implants for patients with moderate hearing loss. No relevant evidence-based guidelines were identified.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2012, Issue 9), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2007 and October 2, 2012. Internet links were provided, where available.

RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, and evidence-based guidelines.
One health technology assessment report, one systematic review, and sixteen non-randomized studies were identified regarding the clinical effectiveness of middle ear implants for patients with moderate hearing loss. No relevant randomized controlled trials or evidence-based guidelines were identified. Additional references of potential interest, including studies in which the degree of hearing loss is unclear in the abstract, are provided in the appendix.

Health Technology Assessments


Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses


Randomized Controlled Trials

No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies


PubMed: PM17666242

Guidelines and Recommendations
No literature identified.

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Non-randomized Studies – Degree of Hearing Loss Unclear


Consensus Guidelines and Recommendations

**Review Articles**

   PubMed: PM20090297

   PubMed: PM19762429

**Additional References**

   PubMed: PM22918112

   PubMed: PM20610915

   PubMed: PM20980961

   PubMed: PM20610910

   PubMed: PM19813468

   PubMed: PM17245065