TITLE: Tympanic and Temporal Thermometers in Long-Term Care and Acute Care: Clinical Effectiveness and Ease of Use

DATE: 30 October 2009

RESEARCH QUESTION:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness (including infection control) of tympanic and temporal thermometers for children and adults in long-term care or acute care?

2. What is the evidence for ease of use of tympanic and temporal thermometers for children and adults in long-term care or acute care?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 3, 2009), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. The search was limited to English language articles published between 2004 and October 2009. Filters were applied to limit the retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, controlled clinical trials, and observational studies. Internet links were provided, where available.

RESULTS:

HTIS 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, controlled clinical trials, controlled clinical trials, and observational studies.

Two relevant systematic reviews, one randomized controlled trial, and 18 observational studies were identified. None of these studies addressed infection control of tympanic and temporal thermometers for children and adults in long-term care or acute care. No relevant health
technology assessments or controlled clinical trials were identified from the literature search results. Additional articles of interest may be found in the appendix.

Health technology assessments
No literature identified

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Randomized controlled trials


Controlled clinical trials
No literature identified

Observational studies


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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Positions statements


Review articles


