TITLE: Empiric Therapy for Retropharyngeal and Peritonsillar Abscesses in Children: Clinical Effectiveness

DATE: 10 February 2009

RESEARCH QUESTION:

What is the clinical effectiveness of empiric therapies for retropharyngeal and peritonsillar abscesses in children?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 1, 2009), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 2004 and February 2009, and are limited to English language publications only. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links are 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, observational studies, and evidence-based guidelines.

Eight observational studies and one guideline were identified pertaining to the use of empiric therapy for retropharyngeal and peritonsillar abscesses in children. No health technology assessments, systematic reviews, randomized controlled trials, or controlled clinical trials were identified. Additional references that may be of interest are included in the appendix.

Health technology assessments
No literature identified
Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
No literature identified

Randomized controlled trials
No literature identified

Controlled clinical trials
No literature identified

Observational studies


Guidelines and recommendations

9. **Guideline for the management of retropharyngeal abscess in children and young people.**
   Nottingham, UK: Nottingham University Hospitals, NHS; 2008 May.

PREPARED BY:
Erin Russell, MSc Candidate, Research Assistant
Amanda Hodgson, MLIS, Information Specialist
Health Technology Inquiry Service
Email: [htis@cadth.ca](mailto:htis@cadth.ca)
Tel: 1-866-898-8439
APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Studies in adult populations


Review articles


Additional references


