Practice guideline for diagnosis of otalgia and management of otitis media in children

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Abstract:

This evidence-based clinical practice guideline provides recommendations to primary care clinicians for diagnosis of otalgia and the management of children from 2 months through 12 years of age with uncomplicated acute otitis media (AOM).

Aims: The primary aim of this guideline was to provide evidence-based guideline in order to unify diagnosis of Otalgia and the management of common causes of Otalgia in children namely "Otitis Media" by GPs, which is also used to teach the procedure to medical students. Secondary aims were (1) Limit acute symptoms and complications caused by otalgia. (2) Limit complications of antibiotic therapy including the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria.

Methods: Adaptation of existing evidence based guideline for diagnosis of otalgia and management of otitis media included preparing the proposal, selecting committee members, defining research questions and the target group, searching and screening the published guidelines for otalgia and otitis media, assessing and scoring guidelines regarding a toll named "Agree" by three experts, and finally selecting the best guideline with the highest score. Translating the guideline followed by drafting an adopted version of it by the committee for final assessment of its credibility and feasibility by external reviewers.

Results: This evidence based guideline covers the issues concerning diagnosis of otalgia, management of otitis media. In this guideline all recommendations are evidence based, therefore, the level of recommendations and the level of underling evidences are addressed which will be presented in more details in the seminar.