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Learning Objectives: 1) To learn the importance of MRI diffusion in cholesteatoma followup 2) to understand how fusion of mastoid CT scan and MRI diffusion can localize precisely residual cholesteatoma.

Objective: To evaluate the ability of a preoperative mastoid Computerized tomography scan (CT scan) fusion with the postoperative diffusion weighted magnetic resonance imaging to accurately localize a residual cholesteatoma thus sparing an unnecessary postoperative CT scan radiation.

Study design: Prospective study

Setting: Tertiary care center.

Patients and methods: We followed up prospectively a consecutive group of patients presenting with middle ear cholesteatoma using preoperative mastoid CT scans, postoperative mastoid CT scan and diffusion weighted-MRI between 2008 and 2009.

Postoperative Diffusion Weighted-MRI images were fused to both: the preoperative and postoperative mastoid CT scans. Fused images were evaluated for their ability to detect accurately the location of residual cholesteatoma. If any, results were correlated to surgical findings.

Results: Twenty-seven patients were included in the study; only nine patients showed middle ear opacity on the postoperative CT scans; the remaining negative patients were excluded. Diffusion weighted MRI had detected residual cholesteatoma in 3 out of the nine patients. Both CT scans; preoperative and postoperative, were able to precisely localize the residual cholesteatoma when fused to the postoperative diffusion-weighted MRI. Intraoperatively, two patients had a residual cholesteatoma that correspond to the fused radiological images. The third was cholesteatoma free.

Conclusion: Diffusion weighted MRI / CT scan fusion combines the advantages of cholesteatoma detection and precise localization. Preoperative CT scan performed before the first surgery can be used for the fusion to spare the patient an unnecessary another CT scan and thus decreasing radiation exposure.

doi:10.1017/S0022215116002619

Imaging for Cholesteatoma and ear structure (R676)

ID: 676.3

DWI imaging in extensive petrous bone cholesteatoma

Presenting Author: **Simon Lloyd**

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Learning Objectives: To assess the utility of DWI imaging in the assessment of recurrence of extensive petrous bone cholesteatomas.

Methods: A prospectively updated database of patients who had undergone surgery for extensive petrous bone cholesteatoma was interrogated. All patients had undergone annual DWI imaging. Data was collated including extent of disease, surgical approach and recurrence based on clinical assessment and DWI imaging. Analysis of factors associated with recurrence was undertaken.

Results: 63 patients were included. Age range was 10 to 83 years. 60% presented with good facial function (House-Brackmann grade I or II) and 33% presented with useable hearing. The most common location of disease was supralabyrinthine 33%) although 28 (44%) had apical disease. Complications were limited with one patient developing a CSF leak, one patient an abdominal wall haematoma, and one patient an infection in the wound. 11% had residual hearing following surgery. 63% had good facial function at 1 year post operatively. 5% had clinically apparent residual/recurrent cholesteatoma but 30% had residual/recurrent disease on DWI imaging. 70% of recurrence was initially managed conservatively but 60% eventually required repeat surgery.

Conclusions: DWI MRI is a useful technique for confirming the diagnosis and assessing extent of petrous bone cholesteatoma. It has also become the gold standard for identification of recurrent disease and has much better sensitivity and specificity than clinical assessment. Its extensive use has demonstrated that recurrence rates of petrous bone cholesteatoma are much higher than historic papers based on clinical assessment would suggest. Not all recurrence requires treatment, however.

doi:10.1017/S0022215116002620

Imaging for Cholesteatoma and ear structure (R676)

ID: 676.4

How the use of CBCT and MRI has changed our management of cholesteatoma

Presenting Author: **Thomas Somers**

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Cholesteatoma remains a clinical diagnosis but today imaging has become an important cornerstone in the diagnostic work-up of this condition. Conebeam CT offers a much higher resolution of the interface between bone, air and soft tissue, while the associated irradiation dose is substantially lower, as compared to multi-detector CT scans. As such, CBCT has become very useful for the pre-op work-up of patients with cholesteatoma showing with precision bony erosion of the ossicular chain and erosion of the petrous bone (as fistulae, perilyabyrinthine erosion, intracranial invasion). Also the aeration of the

ME-cleft is shown (important for the functional prognosis) and important preoperative landmarks warn the surgeon for eventual pitfalls.

The advent of the non-EP diffusion weighted sequence in MR-imaging makes this sequence a very useful adjunctive tool in the pre-op work-up of cholesteatoma cases specially in cases suspected of intralabyrinthine spread, or extension medial to the otic capsule or intracranial invasion. Its today almost undisputed value has been demonstrated in the postoperative follow-up of cholesteatoma by the high sensitivity and specificity (in most studies well above 90%). By this innovation many “unnecessary” (because absence of residual pathology) second stage operations can today be avoided. Advantages and limitations of the two imaging techniques will be discussed.

An algorithm usefull in clinical practice will be proposed

doi:10.1017/S0022215116002632

Percutaneous and transcutaneous BCHD (V677)

ID: 677.1

Implantation technique of the semi-implantable transcutaneous bone conduction hearing device Sophono

Presenting Author: **Ralf Siegert**

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Learning Objectives:

Introduction: Patients with air bone gaps can be treated with bone conducting hearing aids. The disadvantages of the conventional and percutaneous systems are the obvious external fixation components or the biological and psychosocial problems of open implants. This project was set up to develop a semi-implantable transcutaneous bone conducting device, introduce it into clinical application and follow-up on the results.

Material and Method: The principle of this bone conducting device is the magnetic coupling between implanted and external magnets. After extensive lab tests it was introduced clinically in 2006. Since then there have been performed more than 300 implantations in Recklinghausen and more than 3000 worldwide.

We will demonstrate different implantation techniques: The “classical” one and the Up-Side-Down-Technique” and discuss pros and cons of each.

doi:10.1017/S0022215116002644

Percutaneous and transcutaneous BCHD (V677)

ID: 677.2

Bone Conduction Implant, clinical trial of a new transcutaneous implant and results so far

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Introduction: The bone conduction implant (BCI), is a new active transcutaneous hearing implant with a transducer surgically implanted under intact skin.

We present the surgical procedure and the results so far of a multicentre clinical trial of this novel device.

Patients and Methods: 11 patients aged 18–67 years at 2 academic university hospitals in Sweden have been recruited and implanted with the BCI.

All patients have a mild to moderate conductive or mixed hearing loss and underwent audiometric assessment as well as completed abbreviated profile of hearing aid benefit (APHAB) and Glasgow benefit inventory (GBI) questionnaires. Results presented here are from the 6 month follow up the first 6 patients. As a reference device, a Ponto Pro Power (Oticon Medical) was used on a softband for a month prior to surgery.

All patients then underwent placement of the BCI device under general anaesthesia. The device was switched on at 1 month post surgery and audiometric assessment was repeated.

Results: The surgical procedure was uneventful with no immediate adverse events.

The BCI had a statistically significant improvement over the unaided condition with a pure-tone-average improvement of 31.0 dB, a speech recognition threshold improvement in quiet (27.0 dB), and a speech recognition score improvement in noise (51.2 %). At speech levels, the signal-to-noise ratio threshold for BCI was - 5.5 dB. All BCI results were better than, or similar to the reference device results, and the APHAB and GBI questionnaires scores showed statistically significant improvements versus the unaided situation.

Conclusion: The BCI provides significant hearing rehabilitation for patients with mild-to-moderate conductive or mixed hearing impairments, and can be easily and safely implanted under intact skin.

doi:10.1017/S0022215116002656

Long-term results of chronic ear surgery (R711)

ID: 711.1

Long-term outcome obliteration of radical cavities with autogenous cortical bone

Presenting Author: **Jussi Jero**

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