Clinical practice guidelines for acute otitis media in children: A systematic review and appraisal of European national guidelines

Supplementary File 7: Investigations recommended by European, American, and WHO guidelines for acute otitis media (AOM) in children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Investigation</th>
<th>Circumstances</th>
<th>National LOE / SOR</th>
<th>Oxford LOE / SOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Czech Republic | • Culture via tympanocentesis or swab  
                     • CRP                                                                 | • Children <2 years of age                                                      | -                   | -                |
| Finland        | • Culture                                                                     | • Complications of AOM  
                                                                  • Underlying immunodeficiency or significant co-morbidity  
                                                                  • Unwell patient requiring hospitalization  
                                                                  • To relieve extreme pain                                                      | -                   | -                |
| France         | • Culture via tympanocentesis                                                | • Treatment failure                                                           | -                   | -                |
| Germany        | • Blood tests (FBC, CRP, Acute phase protein i.e. interleukin 6/BSG)  
                                                                  • Culture via tympanocentesis  
                                                                  • Ultrasound or xray                                                        | • Complications  
                                                                  • Recurrent AOM                                                              | -                   | -                |
| Italy          | • Blood tests (CRP, ESR, WCC)  
                                                                  • Culture via tympanocentesis  
                                                                  • Nasopharyngeal aspirate (only quantitatively)  
                                                                  For blood tests:  
                                                                  • For follow up  
                                                                  For tympanocentesis:  
                                                                  • Complications  
                                                                  • Immunocompromised  
                                                                  • Neonate                                                                 | Typanocentesis: V/ B  
                                                                  NPA: IV/B  
                                                                  CT scan: IV/A                                                                | Typanocentesis: 4/ X  
                                                                  NPA: 3a-3b/X  
                                                                  CT scan: 3a-3b/ A                                                            |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Investigations</th>
<th>Complications</th>
<th>No. of Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>CT scan, Spontaneous otorrhea, Sepsis, Treatment failure, Research purposes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Culture via Tympanocentesis, Aged &lt;3 months, Severe pain and convex ear on otoscopy, Treatment failure</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Blood tests (FBC, CRP, blood culture), Culture (Via tympanocentesis or swab of otorrhea), Lumbar puncture, Skull/Temporal bone CT, Complications, Recurrent AOM, Spontaneous otorrhea, Treatment failure</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Culture via tympanocentesis, Nasopharyngeal swab, Treatment failure</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAP</td>
<td>Culture via tympanocentesis, Nasopharyngeal aspirate, Treatment failure</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No Investigations advised: Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Switzerland, UK SIGN, WHO