

= Abstract =

The Causative Organisms of Otitis Media Accompanying Otorrhea in Children and Their Antimicrobial Susceptibility

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**Purpose :** A great deal of youngsters suffer from otitis media, for which antimicrobials are frequently prescribed. Increased antimicrobial resistance forces physicians to judiciously use antimicrobial agents in treating patients with acute otitis media. There have however been few references with regard to otitis media in Korean children, and authors proceeded investigation to look for the causative agents of otitis media in Korean children and their antimicrobial susceptibility.

**Methods :** The study included 65 patients younger than 15 years old who had been cared at the department of pediatrics and otolaryngology in Hanyang University Hospital from July 1994 to June 1999, and diagnosed of otitis media with otorrhea which contained microorganisms isolated in otorrhea culture. The medical records were reviewed for demographic data, isolated organisms and their antimicrobial susceptibility.

**Results :** Among 65 patients, 37(57%) were boys and 28(43%) girls. Distribution of the patients was reciprocal to the age of the patients; 27 patients(41.5%) were younger than 1 year old, 24(36.9%) were 1 to 3 years old with the average of 2.9 years of age. *Staphylococcus aureus* was isolated in 32 patients(49.2%), *Streptococcus pneumoniae* in 19 patients(29.2%) *Haemophilus influenzae* in 9 patients(13.8%), *Streptococcus oralis* in 3 patients(4.6%), *Moraxella catarrhalis* in 1 patient(1.5%). The isolated microorganisms were not different whether patients had cleft lip/palate or not. The antibiotic resistance rates of *S. aureus* were 90% to erythromycin, imipenem, cephalothin, and clindamycin, 86.2% to oxacillin, 25% to chloramphenicol, 12.5% to trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole(TMP/SMX), and 0% to vancomycin and teicoplanin. The antibiotic resistance rates of *S. pneumoniae* were 71.4% to penicillin and

\* 1999 ( )

greater than 60% to erythromycin, tetracycline, TMP/SMX, 7.1% to chloramphenicol, and 0% to vancomycin and teicoplanin. The antibiotic resistance rates of *H. influenzae* were 55% to ampicillin and TMP/SMX, and 0% to chloramphenicol, ceftriaxone, aztreonam, imipenem and ciprofloxacin.

**Conclusion :** With otorrhea culture, the causative organisms of otitis media appear to be *S. aureus*, *S. pneumoniae* and *H. influenzae*. The high antibiotic resistance rates of the isolated organisms should affect the choice of antibiotics in treating patients with otitis media. Prospective investigations utilizing tympanocentesis in microbiologic studies are needed.

**Key Words :** Otitis media, Antibiotic resistance, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Moraxella catarrhalis*

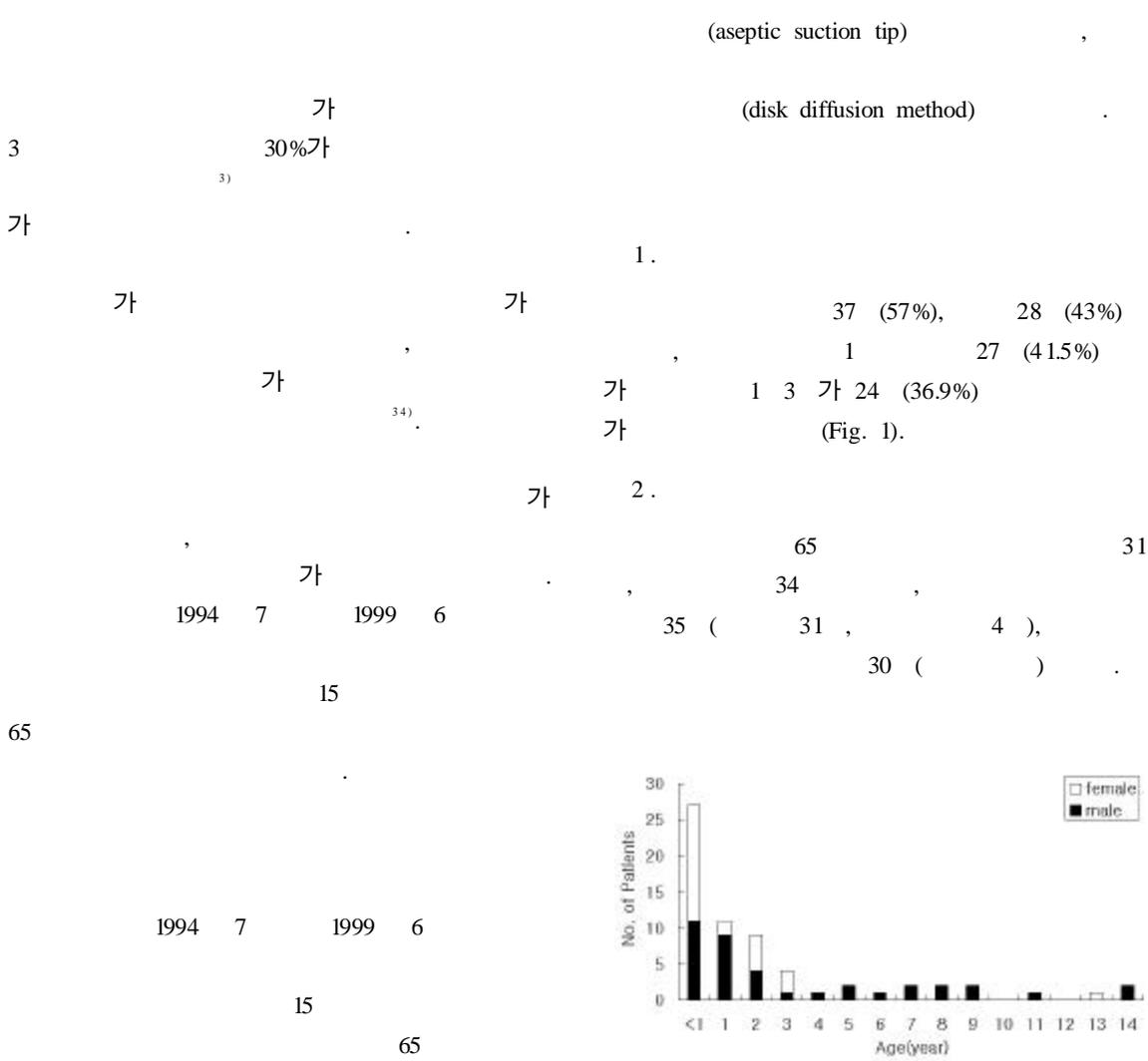


Fig. 1. Sex and age distribution in patients with otitis media.

3 .  
(6  
(3 ), (2 ), (1  
(1 ), (1 ),  
(1 ), (1 )  
(hemophagocytic lympho-  
histiocytosis)(1 ), (1 ) (Table 1).

4 .  
65 7  
2 가 72 가  
*Staphylococcus au-*  
*reus*가 32 (49.2%) 가 ,  
*Streptococcus pneumoniae* 19 (29.2%), *Haemophilus*  
*influenzae* 9 (13.8%), *Streptococcus oralis* 3 (4.6  
)%, *Moraxella catarrhalis* 1 (1.5%), 6  
가 8 (12.3%) (Table 2).

, *S. pneumoniae*가 10  
%(1/10), 29%(18/62)  
*S. aureus*  
erythromycin 94.7%, imi-  
penem 92.3%, cephalothin 90%, clindamycin 90%,  
oxacillin 86.2%, lincomycin 75% chlor-

Table 1. Accompanying Conditions in Patients with Otitis Media

Accompanying Conditions	No. of Patients
Cleft	9
palate	3
lip/palate	6
Meningitis	2
Granulation tissue in middle ear	1
Mastoiditis	1
Nasal polyp	1
Neonatal jaundice with sepsis	1
Prematurity with omphalitis	1
Hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis	1
T-cell lymphoma with leukemia	1
Total	18

amphenicol 25%, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole  
(TMP-SMX) 12.5%, vancomycin 0%, teicoplanin 0%  
(Table 3). *S. pneumoniae*  
erythromycin 80.0%, penicillin  
71.4%, tetracyclin 60.0%, TMP-SMX 60.0%  
, chloramphenicol 7.1%, vancomycin 0%, tei-  
coplanin 0% (Table 4). *H. inf lu-*  
*enzae* chloramphenicol, ceftriaxone, aztreonam,

Table 2. Microorganisms Isolated in Otorrhea Culture

Organism	No.(%) <sup>*</sup>
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	32(49.2)
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	19(29.2)
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	9(13.8)
<i>Streptococcus oralis</i>	3( 4.6)
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	2( 3.1)
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	2( 3.1)
<i>Moraxella catarrhalis</i>	1( 1.5)
<i>Proteus mirabilis</i>	1( 1.5)
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	1( 1.5)
<i>Streptococcus pyogens</i>	1( 1.5)
<i>Providencia stuartii</i>	1( 1.5)

<sup>\*</sup>The numbers in parenthesis=the number of organ-  
isms isolated/the number of organisms of total pa-  
tients(65) × 100

Table 3. Antibiotic Susceptibility of *Staphylo-*  
*coccus Aureus*

	No. Tested (total=29)	Antibiotic susceptibility[No.(%)]		
		Resis- tant	Inter- mediate	Sensi- tive
Erythromycin	19	18(94.7)	0(0.0)	1( 5.3)
Imipenem	13	12(92.3)	0(0.0)	1( 7.7)
Cephalothin	20	18(90.0)	0(0.0)	2( 10.0)
Clindamycin	20	18(90.0)	0(0.0)	2( 10.0)
Oxacillin	29	25(86.2)	0(0.0)	4( 13.8)
Lincomycin	9	7(75.0)	0(0.0)	2( 25.0)
Chloramphenicol	9	2(25.0)	0(0.0)	7( 75.0)
TMP-SMX <sup>*</sup>	8	1(12.5)	0(0.0)	7( 87.5)
Vancomycin	29	0( 0.0)	0(0.0)	29(100.0)
Teicoplanin	20	0( 0.0)	0(0.0)	29(100.0)

<sup>\*</sup>Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole

Table 4. Antibiotic Susceptibility of *Streptococcus Pneumoniae*

	No. Tested (total=14)	Antibiotic susceptibility [No.(%)]		
		Resis- tant	Inter- mediate	Sensi- tive
Erythromycin	10	8(80.0)	1(10.0)	1( 10.0)
Penicillin	14	10(71.4)	1( 7.1)	3( 21.5)
Tetracycline	10	6(60.0)	0( 0.0)	4( 40.0)
TMP-SMX*	10	6(60.0)	0( 0.0)	4( 40.0)
Chloramphenicol	14	1( 7.1)	0( 0.0)	13( 92.9)
Vancomycin	14	0( 0.0)	0( 0.0)	14(100.0)
Teicoplanin	6	0( 0.0)	0( 0.0)	6(100.0)

\*Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole

Table 5. Antibiotic Susceptibility of *Haemophilus influenzae*

	No. Tested (total=9)	Antibiotic susceptibility [No.(%)]		
		Resis- tant	Inter- mediate	Sensi- tive
Ampicillin	9	8(55.5)	1(11.1)	3( 33.4)
TMP-SMX*	9	5(55.5)	0( 0.0)	4( 44.5)
Chloramphenicol	6	0( 0.0)	0( 0.0)	6(100.0)
Ceftriaxone	7	0( 0.0)	0( 0.0)	7(100.0)
Aztreonam	3	0( 0.0)	0( 0.0)	3(100.0)
Imepenem	6	0( 0.0)	0( 0.0)	6(100.0)
Ciprofloxacin	5	1(20.0)	0( 0.0)	4(100.0)

\*Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole

imipenem ciprofloxacin 100%  
, ampicillin TMP-SMX 55%  
(Table 5).

Pittsburgh <sup>25)</sup> 33%, <sup>26, 27)</sup> 15 26%,  
<sup>28)</sup> 8.7%, <sup>5)</sup> 8%, <sup>1)</sup> 5%  
(2,899 가 , 9,321 )  
2.85%  
0.02%, 0.60%, 2.19%  
<sup>31)</sup>  
가 <sup>29, 30)</sup>  
6 12 1  
62% , 17%  
, 3 83%가  
46%가  
<sup>9)</sup> 65  
1 27 (41.5%), 1 3 가 24  
(36.9%) 3 가 78%  
20  
peni-  
cillin *S. pneumoniae* -lactamase  
*M. catarrhalis* *H. influenzae*가 가  
<sup>32)</sup> 1980 1989  
2807  
*S. pneumoniae* 35%, *H. in-*  
*fluenzae* 23%, *M. catarrhalis* 14% group A *Strap-*  
*tococcus* 3% <sup>12)</sup> *Mycoplasma pneumo-*  
*niae*가 *Strap-*  
*tococcus pyogenes*, *Chlamydia*  
*pneumoniae* <sup>2, 13)</sup>  
*S. aure-*  
*us* 27 (44%), *S. pneumoniae* 18 (29%), *H. inf luen-*  
*zae* 8 (13%), *M. catarrhalis* 1 (1.5%)  
*S. aureus*가 가  
*S. aureus*가  
*S. aureus*

<sup>21 23)</sup>

가

<sup>24)</sup> 50%,

가 가 , , 36 ,  
<sup>17, 18)</sup> .  
*S. aureus* S. -lactam  
*pneumoniae* *H. influenzae*가 amoxicillin  
 amoxicillin *H.*  
*M. catarrhalis*가 1 *influenzae* 1980 (10 15%)  
 가 가 <sup>20)</sup> 40 50%  
 . 가 plasmid  
 가 TEM-1 -lactamase .  
*H. influenzae* ampi-  
 cillin 58%, -lactamase 55%  
<sup>10)</sup> . *H. influenzae* am-  
 picillin, TMP-SMX .  
 가 가 961  
<sup>8)</sup> , 411 (43%)  
<sup>11)</sup> .  
 가 respiratory syncytial virus  
*S. pneumoniae* penicillin 1967 가 (57%) influenza B par-  
 1980 ainfluenza 2 18  
 가 penicillin . %, 10% .  
 1990 penicillin S.  
*pneumoniae*가 가 가  
<sup>14, 15)</sup> . *S. pneumoniae* penicil- lin, augmentin<sup>®</sup>(amoxicillin-clavulanate)가  
 lin 20% 83% <sup>3)</sup>  
 (1998 40%) 2  
 (intermediate resistant type) , ( :5 )  
 가 <sup>4)</sup> .  
<sup>16)</sup> . *S. pneumoniae* penicillin  
 68 77% ,  
 90% 30% 가  
<sup>35 37)</sup> . *S. pneumoniae* <sup>6, 7)</sup> ,  
 penicillin, erythromycin ,  
 TMP-SMX 89%, 91%, 63  
 % <sup>33)</sup> . *S. pneumoniae* penicil- 가  
 lin 71.4% , erythromy- .  
 cin, tetracycline, TMP-SMX .  
 . penicil- *S. aureus*, *S. pneumoniae* *H. influenzae*  
 lin *S. pneumoniae* ,  
 -lactam ,

가  
 :  
 가  
 가  
 가  
 : 1994 7 1999 6  
 15  
 65  
 : 65 37 (57%),  
 28 (43%) 2.9 가  
 1 27 (41.5%), 1 3 24  
 (36.9%) , 3 가 78%  
*Staphylococcus aureus* 32  
 (49.2%), *Streptococcus pneumoniae* 19 (29.2%), *Haemophilus influenzae* 9 (13.8%), *Streptococcus oralis* 3 (4.6%), *Moraxella catarrhalis* 1 (1.5%)  
 / 9 (14%)  
 /  
*S. aureus*  
 , erythromycin, imipenem, cephalo-  
 thin, clindamycin 90% , oxacillin 86.2%,  
 chloramphenicol 25%, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole  
 (TMP-SMX) 12.5%, vancomycin teicoplanin 0%  
 . *S. pneumoniae* penicillin 71.4  
 %, erythromycin, tetracycline trimethoprim-sulfame-  
 thoxazole(TMP-SMX) 60% , chloramphenicol 7.1  
 %, vancomycin, teicoplanin, ciprofloxacin 0%  
 . *H. influenzae* ampicillin, TMP-SMX  
 55.5% chlroramphenicol, ceftriaxone,

aztreonam, imipenem, ciprofloxacin

:  
*S. aureus*, *S. pneumoniae* *H. influen-*  
*zae*

가

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