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Pediatric conductive hearing loss, it's not all fluid

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The most common cause for conductive hearing loss in children is a middle ear effusion. However, there could be other causes, both congenital and acquired, that may require intervention beyond observation or pressure equalization tubes. Further evaluation is often required to define these types of hearing loss but an auditory history and audiogram may be the first clue. Congenital abnormalities of the ossicles and middle ear space may be suggested based on the level of hearing loss and tympanogram. These may be amenable to surgical procedure that may obviate the need for hearing aids. On the other hand, acquired and congenital cholesteatomas, can present in a multitude of ways and if not identified can lead to destruction of the ossicles and the potential for permanent hearing loss. Lastly, previous surgical intervention may alter the appearance of audiometric testing. The goal of the talk is to review the various types of conductive hearing loss in children and how they might present to the audiologist and on an audiogram.

Biography

Stephen Newton has completed his MD from Howard University. He has completed his Residency in Otolaryngology from the University of Iowa and has performed a two year Research Post-doctoral Fellowship looking at microRNAs and their role in hearing loss. He has done a Clinical Fellowship in Pediatric Otolaryngology from Boston Children's Hospital. Currently, he is a Pediatric Otolaryngologist at the Children's Hospital of Colorado and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology at the University of Colorado. He heads the Cochlear Implant Program at Children's Hospital of Colorado's extension in Colorado Springs.

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