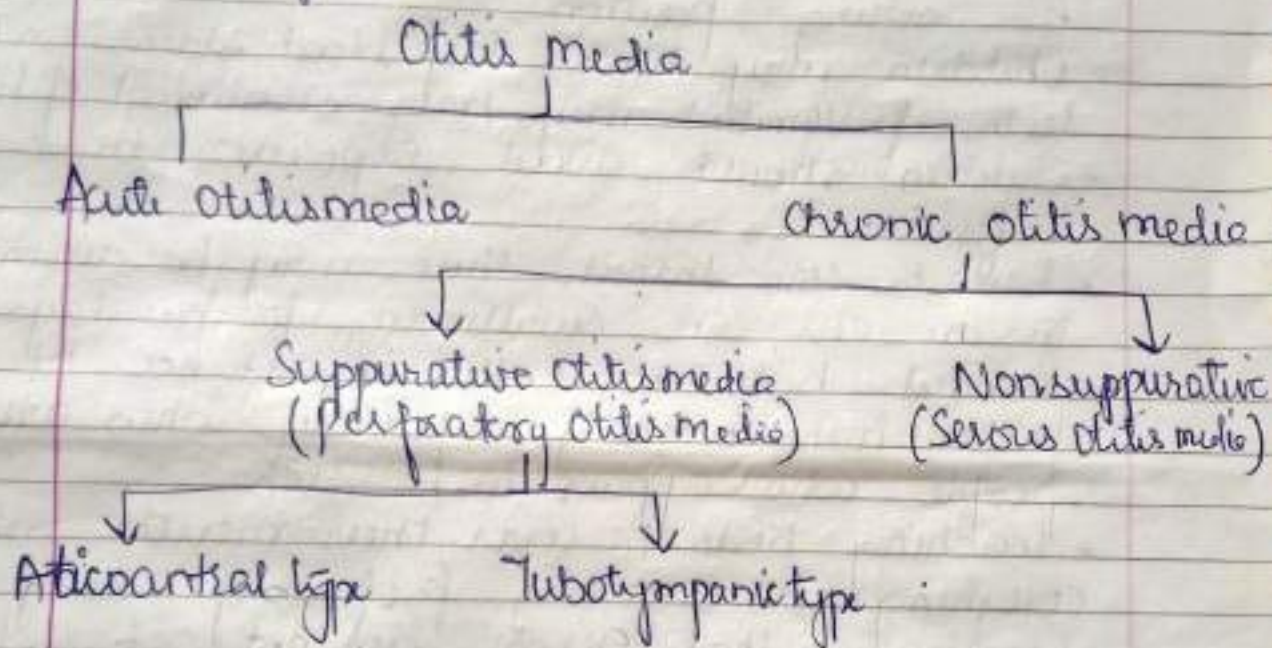


② OTITIS MEDIA

It is an inflammation & infection of middle ear that most often occur in infant & young children but can occur at any age.

→ Classification



① Acute Otitis media

It is an acute infection of the middle ear usually lasting less than 6 weeks.

② Chronic Otitis media

It is a long standing infection of a part or whole of the middle ear characterised by ear discharge.

It is further of two types:

- a) Suppurative Otitis media
- b) Non suppurative Otitis media

a) Suppurative otitis media.
In this type there is inflammation of the middle ear & mastoid cavity
permanent perforation with mucopurulent discharge.

Subdivided into two types:

- Atico-antial chronic otitis media.

In this type the inflammation involves bones e.g. mastoid, ossicles, tympanic ring.

- Tubo-tympanic otitis media

In this type there is permanent perforation with mucopurulent discharge.

b) Non suppurative / Serous Otitis media / Otitis media with effusion.

The child with serous otitis media may present with middle ear effusion without pain in the ear & fever. The effusion may be serous, mucoid or purulent.

→ Causes

- Age: Common among children due to shorter Eustachian tube.
- Trauma to Tympanic membrane
- Head injury.
- Upper respiratory tract infections
- Bacteria: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*
Virus: *H. influenza*
- Allergic rhinitis
- Eustachian tube deformity

→ Clinical Features

- Otalgia (Pain in the ear)
- Otorrhoea (Any discharge from ear)

- Otorrhagia (Bleeding from ear).
- Fever
- Hearing loss
- Irritability
- Tinnitus

→ Diagnosis

- History collection
- Physical examination
- Otoloscopic examination
- Audiometry & Tympanometry
- Culture & sensitivity test.

→ Management

* Medical management

- Antibiotics are prescribed
- Analgesics may be required to relieve the pain.
- Antipyretics may be prescribed to treat the fever.

* Surgical management

- Myringotomy or tympanotomy
It is the incision in the Tympanic membrane.
- Mastoidectomy
- Tympanoplasty
- Ossiculoplasty (surgical reconstruction of the middle ear bones to restore hearing)

* Nursing Management

Most infants & children with otitis media are cared for at home; therefore a primary responsibility of the nurse is to teach the family caregivers about prevention & the care of the child.

- Positioning: Have the child sit up, raise head on pillows, or lie on unaffected ear.
- Heat application: Apply heating pad or warm hot water bottle.
- Diet: Encourage breastfeeding of infants as breastfeeding affords natural immunity to infectious agents. Provide liquid diet as it helps to prevent pain on chewing.
- Hygiene: Teach family members to cover mouths & noses when sneezing or coughing & to wash hands frequently.
- Parents & children should be told to avoid putting anything in the ear.

③ CHILD ABUSE

Child abuse can be defined as any intentional act of physical, emotional or sexual abuse, including acts of negligence, committed by a person responsible for the care of the child.

→ Causes

* Parental Cause

- Parent has already abused^{ed} a child
- Pregnancy was not wanted
- Young, unsupported mother often with low education.
- Lack parenting knowledge
- Parent is isolated & has few supports.
- Parent has a mental illness or is ~~abusing~~ alcoholic or drug abused.

* Environmental Causes.

- Overcrowding in the house
- Poverty
- Family violence is present
- Family is experiencing multiple stress

* Child Causes

- Baby is sickly or unwanted
- Child has a physical or developmental disability
- Child is the product of an abusive relationship

→ Types/Forms of Child Abuse.

1. Physical abuse

Physical abuse is when a child is physically harmed.

• Shaken baby syndrome

Shaken baby syndrome ~~can~~ occurs when a small child is shaken by the arms or shoulders in a repetitive, violent manner. When the child is shaken, a whiplash type injury occurs to the neck.

• Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy

In Munchausen Syndrome by proxy, one person either fabricates or induces illness in another to get attention.

2. Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse can be seen as a failure to provide a supportive environment & primary attachment figure for a child so that they may develop a full & healthy range of emotional abilities.

Several types of emotional abuse can occur -

- Verbal abuse such as humiliation, scapegoating, erratic discipline
- Emotional unavailability when caregivers are absorbed in their own problems
- Insufficient or poor nurturing
- Role reversal in which the child must take on the role of parenting the parent & is blamed for the parent's problems

3. Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse is engaging a child in any sexual activity that he/she does not understand or cannot give informed consent for or is not physically, mentally or emotionally prepared for.

4. Neglect

Neglect is purposeful omission of some or all developmental needs of the

child by a caregiver with the intention of harming the child.

Neglect takes many forms:

- Physical neglect involves the deprivation of necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, medical care, education.
- Emotional neglect refers to the failure to meet the child's needs for attention, affection, & emotional nurturance.

→ Signs & symptoms:

- Physical abuse signs & symptoms:
 - Unexplained injuries such as bruises, fractures or burns.
 - Injuries that don't match the given explanation.
- Sexual abuse signs & symptoms:
 - Pregnancy or STI's.
 - Blood in the child's underwear.
 - Inappropriate sexual contact with other children.
 - Statements that he/she was sexually abused.
- Emotional abuse signs & symptoms:
 - Loss of self-confidence or self-esteem.
 - Social withdrawal.
 - Depression.
 - A decrease in school performance or loss of interest in school.
 - Changes in behavior.
 - Attempts at running away.

- Self-harm or attempts to suicide.

o Neglect signs & symptoms:

- Poor growth
- Poor hygiene
- Lack of clothing
- Taking food or money without permission
- Hiding food

→ Management

Management of child abuse should be done depending upon type of injury.

- Hospitalization may be necessary & psychotherapy may be needed for parents and child.
- Abused child may need to be kept away from home, permanently or temporarily, if the parents are dangerously aggressive. Prevention of child abuse can be possible by supportive home visits by community health nurse or social worker and increasing legal help against child abuse.
- Other measures for prevention of child abuse are increasing awareness about child rearing practices & educating people about acceptance of children at sufficient mature age to be an adequate parents.