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Identification Of Common Bacterial Etiologic Agents, Antimicrobial Susceptibility Pattern & Associated Risk Factors Of Otitis Media Among Pediatric Patients Of Asmara, Eritrea

Khawaja Shakeel Ahmed[1], **G/Her**[1], **Dawit Kessete**[1], **Eden A/Mariam**[1], **Fyori Mhretab**[1], **Miriam Mogos**[1], **Matiwos Araya**[1] and **Yordanos Kessete**[1]
Asmara College of Health Sciences, Asmara, Eritrea

Otitis media is a pervasive childhood problem which is commonly caused by bacteria but sometime virus and fungi are also responsible. The burden and population demographic of otitis media differs greatly between developed and developing countries. In developing countries otitis media accounts for more deaths of children because of complications arise from it. The present study is a cross sectional prospective study conducted among pediatric patients of Asmara Eritrea. A total of 66 ear discharge samples were collected and screened for growth of bacteria. Antibiotic susceptibility testing was done by disc diffusion method. Standard/ or Structured questionnaire was used to collect socio demographic and clinical data which was analyzed using SPSS version 20 software. Of, 66 samples, 55 showed presence of bacteria (83.31%) and the most common pathogenic bacteria was Staphylococcus aureus 16 (24.24%) followed by Hemophilus influenza and Pseudomonas aeruginosa 10 (10.6%) each. Low aged children, day care attenders and with big family showed statistically significant prevalence i.e. (75%) (68%) and (60%) respectively (P-value 0.036; 95% CI 1.080-9.075) ($p<0.000$; OR= 8.889, 95% CI=2.901-27.235). H. influenza, P.aeruginosa and S. aureus showed good sensitivity towards ciprofloxacin, while all three showed resistance to penicillin or to its derivative. Our data fill a gap about the lack of knowledge regarding prevalence and the factors responsible for Acute Otitis Media in children. This study also helps us to improve our knowledge about treatment regimen for curing AOM in young children who require more aggressive preventive strategies to reduce the risk of recurrence.

khajashakeel@gmail.com