



AAO 08: Otitis Media with Effusion: Antihistamines or Decongestants – Avoidance of Inappropriate Use

Percentage of patients aged 2 months through 12 years with a diagnosis of OME who were not prescribed or recommended to receive either antihistamines or decongestants

Quality Domain: Effective Clinical Care

OME usually resolves spontaneously with indications for therapy only if the condition is persistent and clinically significant benefits can be achieved. In children aged 4 to 11 years, there was no difference in the resolution of effusion or hearing loss over 3 months between children treated with nasal mometasone or placebo; in fact, there was an economic disadvantage in the group treated with mometasone, considering the high rate of spontaneous resolution in the placebo group. Furthermore, 7% to 22% of study group patients experienced minor adverse effects.

Denominator: All patients aged 2 months through 12 years with a diagnosis of OME

Denominator Exclusions: None

Denominator Exceptions: Documentation of medical reason(s) for prescribing or recommending to receive either antihistamines or decongestants

Numerator: Patients who were not prescribed or recommended to receive either antihistamines or decongestants

Measure Type: Process, Traditional, Proportional,

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