

Middle Ear Disease Requiring Myringotomy in the First Two Years after Tracheostomy in a Pediatric Population

The current literature has shown that there are risk factors for surgical intervention in the treatment of middle ear disease. However, the presence of a tracheostomy has rarely been investigated as a risk factor. Up to now, there has been one study in 2012 that demonstrated that tracheostomy is a risk factor for myringotomy (prevalence 20%, 95% CI 15-26%). Due to the demonstrated lack of published research on tracheostomy as a risk factor for myringotomy, there exists a need to study how often a tracheotomized ventilator dependent child needs a tympanostomy tube, as well as how a tracheostomy affects patients undergoing a myringotomy. The purpose of this study is to determine the incidence and risk factors for myringotomy in patients under 18 years of age who have undergone a tracheostomy.

o **Aim 1:** Evaluate clinical characteristics to determine if they are associated with increased risk of myringotomy