



## SUMMARY OF OTOVENT EVALUATION

Niebuhr, M., and Sorvin. B. *Autoinflation as a treatment of Secretary Otitis Media in children younger than 3 years*. ENT department Fredricksberg Hospital, DK-2000 Copenhagen, Denmark.

The aim of the study was to evaluate the effect of the Otovent treatment in a group of children younger than 3 years.

In total 33 children aged 0.7 to 3 years were consecutively included in the study and randomised to either four weeks Otovent treatment or two weeks of observation. Entering the control period 17% of the ears had tympanometry type C2 and 83% had tympanometry type B. Four weeks later none of the ears had improved to type A, 13% of the ears had tympanometry type C1, 4% type C2 and 83% had tympanometry type B.

In the Otovent group 17% had type C2 and 83% type B at entry. After four weeks of autinflation, the tympanometry findings had improved significantly to 25% type A/C1, 33% type C2 and 42 % type B.

The results of the study confirmed the results from other studies that there is a significant benefit from autoinflation in children with secretory otitis media, not only from aged 3 years but also from 1-3 years. In the study no acute middle ear infection or other complications occurred during the four weeks of autoinflation.

The abstract for this evaluation may well have related to a poster on the subject. That findings don't seem to have been peer reviewed or published in a journal relevant to the area that I can find. Unfortunately no description of how a 1 year old managed to successfully use the Otovent device was given. This information alone would be of great value. The main reason Otovent is studied in children over three is because they cannot execute the function consistently or effectively.

I would use the data as informative in nature but not place more weight on it than can be justified. Other articles exist with superior methodology and the statistical significance to support the claimed results.

Any questions or points of clarification can be directed to the undersigned.

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