
Tilmelding af Foredrag

Foredragets titel

Otitis Media among Greenlandic Inuit Children
Management, intervention and perceptions in a high risk population

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Uddannelsesniveau

MD, PhD

Introduktion

The prevalence of otitis media (OM) among Greenlandic Inuit is one of the highest in the world. There are currently no national treatment guidelines for OM. The organization of the Greenlandic health care system facing logistical hardship provides challenges to correct and timely diagnosis and treatment.

Materiale/metode

Paper I was a protocol for a randomized, investigator-initiated, controlled superiority trial on the effects of ventilation tube treatment in Greenlandic Inuit children, aged 9-36 months.

Paper II was a cross-sectional study investigating video-otoscopies done by local health care personnel.

Paper III was a qualitative study based on interviews with parents to children suffering from OM.

Resultater

The trial proved to be more difficult to conduct than expected. Recruitment and retention of patients, changing health care personnel and logistical aspects all presented as challenging. The trial provided insights to factors needed to be considered, when conducting trials in remote settings.

Paper II showed that less than one in five video-otoscopies were useful in the diagnostic process.



Paper III showed that OM has serious consequences for Greenlandic Inuit families.

Diskussion

This thesis provided insights to the main challenges with managing OM in Greenland. We designed and implemented only the second randomized controlled trial in the history of Greenland and gained knowledge about challenges related to conducting trials of high scientific quality in remote areas. Focus on better education and local capacities is needed to improve the diagnostic process. And finally, we documented that OM impacts Greenlandic Inuit families in a severe manner and on several parameters.

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