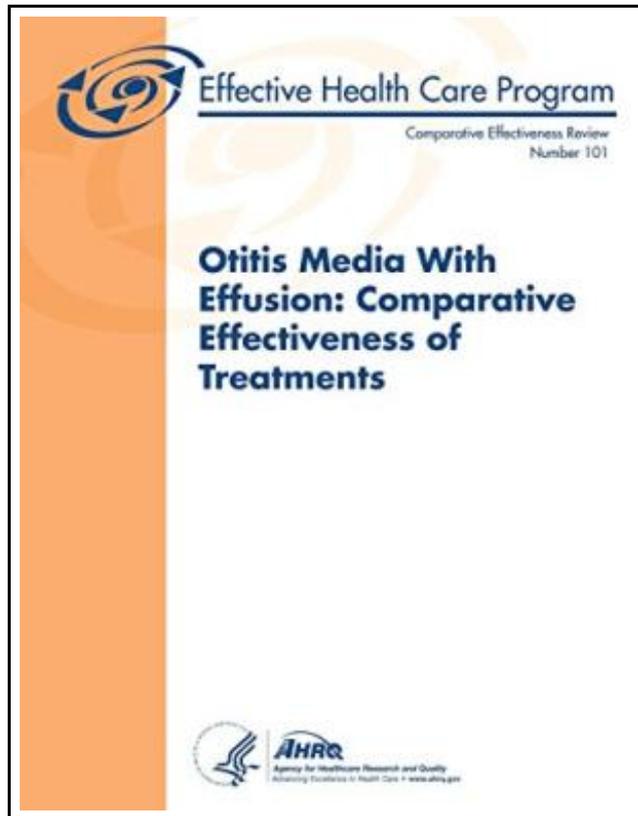


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Createspace. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 404 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.9in. Otitis media with effusion (OME) is defined as a collection of fluid in the middle ear without signs or symptoms of acute ear infection. OME has several potential causes. The leading causes include viral upper respiratory infection, acute otitis media (AOM), and chronic dysfunction of the eustachian tube. However, other potential explanations include ciliary dysfunction, proliferation of fluid-producing goblet cells, allergy and residual bacterial antigens, and biofilm. More recent research suggests that mucoglycoproteins cause the hearing loss and much of the fluid presence that is the hallmark of OME. The presence of fluid in the middle ear decreases tympanic membrane and middle ear function, leading to decreased hearing, a fullness sensation in the ear, and occasionally pain from the pressure changes. OME occurs commonly during childhood, with as many as 90 percent of children (80 of individual ears) having at least one episode of OME by age 10. OME disproportionately affects some subpopulations of children. Those with cleft palate, Down syndrome, and other craniofacial anomalies are at high risk for anatomic causes of OME and compromised function of the eustachian tube. Individuals of American Indian, Alaskan, and Asian backgrounds are believed to be at greater risk, as are children with adenoid hyperplasia. In addition, children with sensorineural hearing loss will likely be more affected by the secondary conductive hearing loss that occurs with OME. Although rare, OME also occurs in adults. This usually happens after patients develop a severe upper respiratory infection such as sinusitis, severe allergies, or rapid change in air pressure after an airplane flight or a scuba dive. The incidence of prolonged OME in adults is not known, but it is much less common than in children. Despite...



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