

# Choisteatoma of the middle ear: A modified canal-wall-up technique

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## Etiology

- Squamous epithelium inside middle ear cavities
- Possible origins:
  - Cholesteatoma by migration after perforation or retraction
  - Papillary cholesteatoma in epitympanum
  - Metaplastic cholesteatoma



*Courtesy of Pr. B. Fraysse*

# Locations (1)

•Epitympanic:

•Anterior



•Posterior



•Lateral



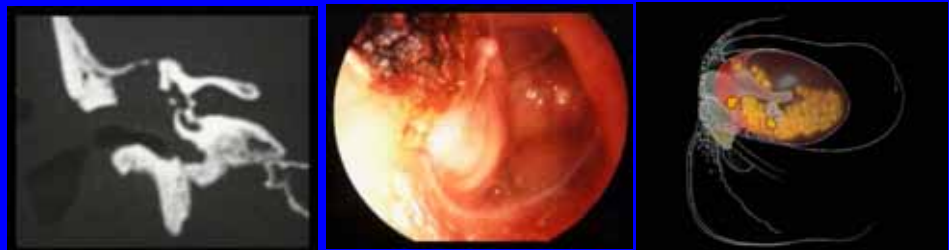
Courtesy of Pr. B. Fraysse

# Locations (2)

• Mesotympanic



• Holotympanic

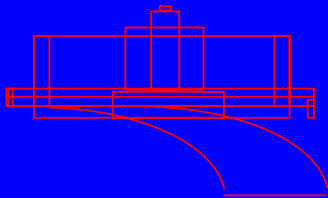


Courtesy of Pr. B. Fraysse

# Strategy

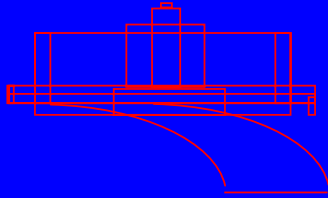
Approach adapted to:

- ✓ The location
- ✓ The degree of extension
- ✓ The size and pneumatisation of the mastoid



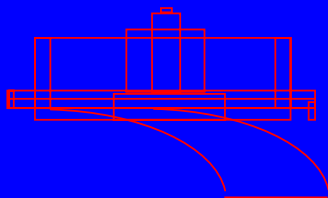
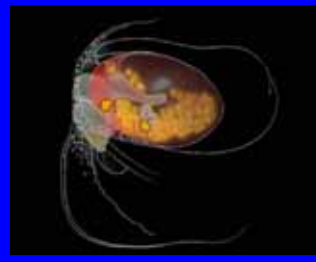
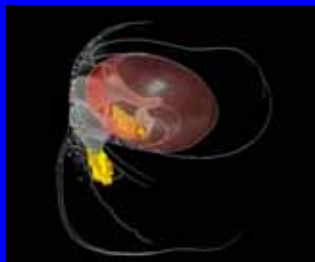
## ONE STAGE SURGERY OF THE MIDDLE EAR CHOLESTEATOMA

- Canal-wall-up (CWU) mastoidectomy:  
Limited cholesteatoma with developed mastoid
- Canal-wall-down (CWD) mastoidectomy:  
Extensive cholesteatoma in sclerotic mastoid



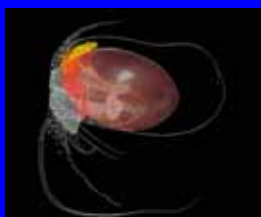
## ONE STAGE SURGERY OF THE MIDDLE EAR CHOLESTEATOMA

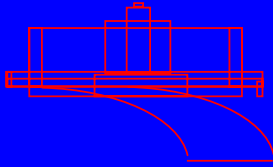
■ Canal-wall-up (CWU) mastoidectomy with posterior tympanotomy: Meso- and holo- tympanic cholesteatoma with posterior extension to sinus tympani



## ONE STAGE SURGERY OF THE MIDDLE EAR CHOLESTEATOMA

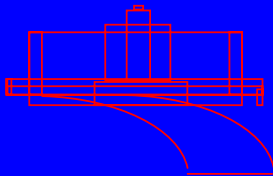
■ Canal wall up (CWU) mastoidectomy with transmeatal atticotomy: Epitympanic cholesteatoma





## Material

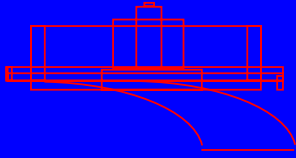
- 1992-97 : 170 cholesteatomas in 150 adults  
(mean age: 54 years)
- 5 surgeons : Senior (80 % of procedures) and 4 fellows
- 150 first procedures (87 %)
- 20 revision procedures (13 %)
- 85 patients (57 %) previously operated on in other centers presenting with a cholesteatoma recurrence.



## Methods

Clinical, and radiological data were analyzed at 24 months:

- Audiometric results (*mean thresholds at 0.5 - 1 - 2 - 3 KHz*) :
  - Air conduction (AC) hearing gain
  - Air-bone gap (ABG)
  - Bone conduction (BC) variation at 4 KHz
- Anatomical results

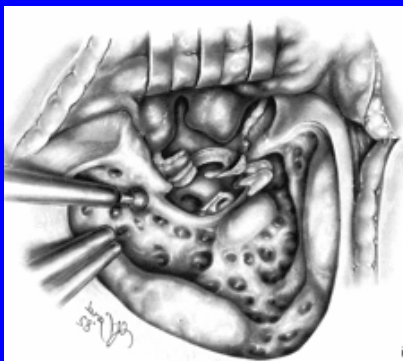


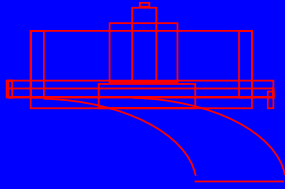
## Surgical technique

- Retroauricular approach in 97 %
- 100 canal wall-up (CWU) mastoidectomy (59%) with posterior tympanotomy when necessary
- 70 canal wall-down (41 %)
- 91 ossicular reconstructions (61 %) in a one stage procedure
- Second look if abnormality on postop CT-scan and/or failure of ossiculoplasty

## Surgical technique

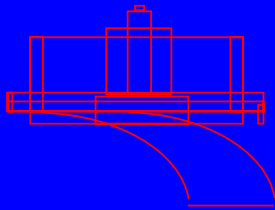
Revision of a canal wall down mastoidectomy cavity, and type 3 tympanoplasty





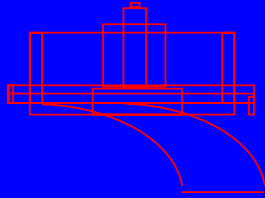
## Cholesteatoma localization and complications

- Atrium 46 %
- Mastoid and attical 54 %
- Ossicular destruction 61 %
- Labyrinthine fistula 14 %
- Erosion facial nerve canal 27 %



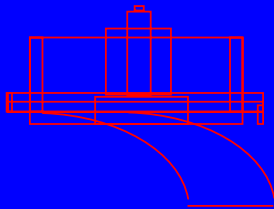
## PORP (n=40)

- 15 Incus autografts (16 %)
- 14 Goldenberg® composite (15 %)
- 11 Xomed® hydroxylapatite covered with cartilage (12 %)

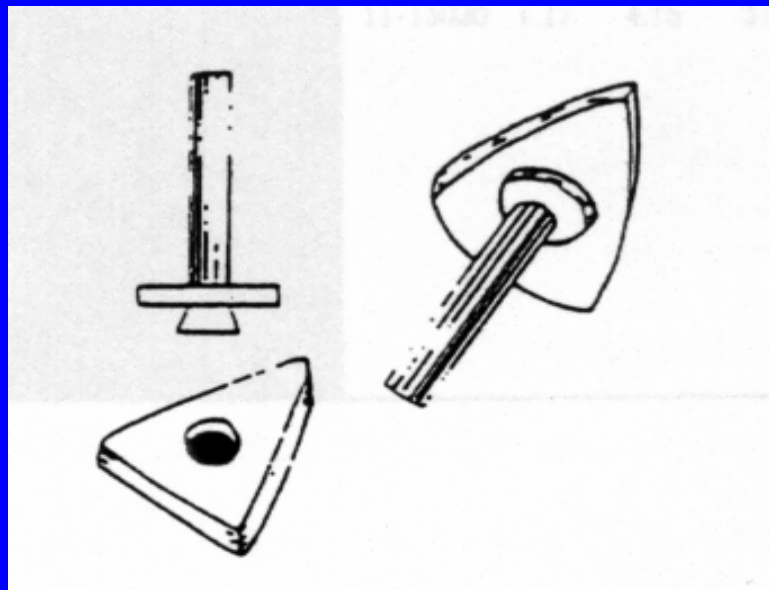


## TORP (n=51)

- 21 Goldenberg® composite (23 %)
- 16 Xomed® hydroxylapatite covered with cartilage (18 %)
- 14 Teflon prostheses (15 %)



## Klein® Teflon prostheses





# Goldenberg<sup>®</sup> prostheses

## INCUS STAPES PROSTHESES

### GOLDENBERG INCUS STAPES PROSTHESIS\* Hydroxylapatite/Plasti-Pore

Hydroxylapatite head designed with "hook" may be rotated inferiorly or superiorly along length of malleus handle. Wire reinforced Plasti-Pore shaft is easily trimmed to length, and provides stability and memory for bending to proper angulation.

Cat. No.	Description
14-0913	Hydroxylapatite Head, Plasti-Pore Shaft with Wire Reinforcement, 8.1mm Long, 0.8mm Diameter Shaft

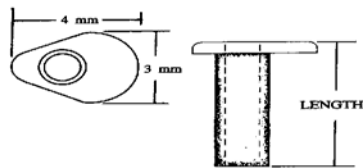
\*As developed in conjunction with Robert Goldenberg, M.D., Dayton, OH.



### GOLDENBERG INCUS PROSTHESIS Hydroxylapatite/Plasti-Pore

Hydroxylapatite head designed with a "hook" to be rotated inferiorly or superiorly along the length of the malleus handle, and includes a centering hole to view stapes capitulum. Plasti-Pore shaft may be trimmed to exact length, and notched for the stapedius tendon.

Cat. No.	Description
14-0912	Hydroxylapatite Head, Plasti-Pore Shaft, 4.2mm Long, Fully Cannulated

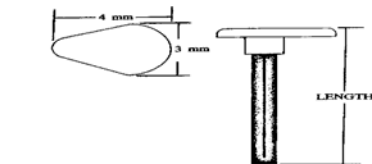


### GOLDENBERG PORP PROSTHESIS\* Hydroxylapatite/Plasti-Pore

Wedge-shaped hydroxylapatite head conforms to tympanic membrane, and is cannulated to visualize stapes capitulum. Plasti-Pore shaft is trimmable and can be notched for stapedius tendon.

Cat. No.	Description
14-0916	Hydroxylapatite Head, Plasti-Pore Shaft, Fully Cannulated, 5.5mm Long

\*As developed in conjunction with Robert Goldenberg, M.D., Dayton, OH.

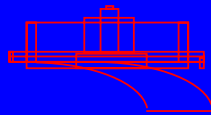


### GOLDENBERG TORP<sup>®</sup> PROSTHESIS\* Hydroxylapatite/Plasti-Pore

Wedge-shaped head may be used when the malleus is not present, or is extremely anteriorly rotated. Plasti-Pore shaft is easily trimmed, and is wire reinforced for increased stability. A tissue graft over the oval window may be used when stapes footplate not present.

Cat. No.	Description
14-0917	Hydroxylapatite Head, Plasti-Pore Shaft with Wire Reinforcement, 8.0mm Long, 0.8mm Diameter Shaft

\*As developed in conjunction with Robert Goldenberg, M.D., Dayton, OH.



# Xomed<sup>®</sup> Hydroxylapatite Prostheses

## IMPLANTS, DENSE H/A TOTALS (C.S. 0181010)

### Total 90° Round



#### DESCRIPTION

- Round head provides stable platform for drum
- Solid dense H/A provides high level of bioactivity at interface sites
- May be shaped with diamond bur under irrigation
- 0.89mm shaft diameter, 4.0mm head diameter, 8.0mm length

## ORDERING INFORMATION

	SD	HD	L	
11-12080	0.89	4.0	8.0	1 each

## ORDERING INFORMATION

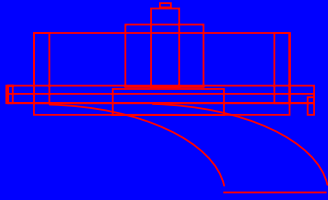
	SD	HD	L	
11-12090	1.1	4.0	5.0	1 each

## DESCRIPTION

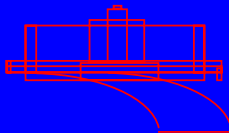
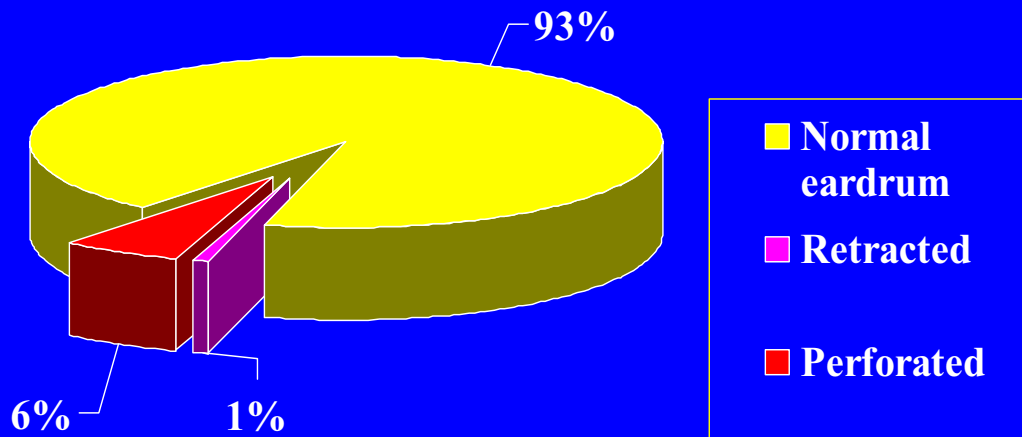
- Solid dense H/A provides high level of bioactivity at interface sites
- Round head provides stable platform for drum
- Fully cannulated shaft fits on head of stapes
- May be shaped with diamond bur under irrigation
- 1.1mm shaft inner diameter, 4.0mm head diameter, 5.0mm length

### Partial 90° Round, H/A



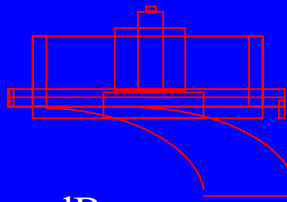


## Anatomical results

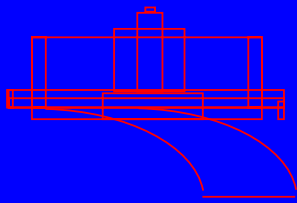
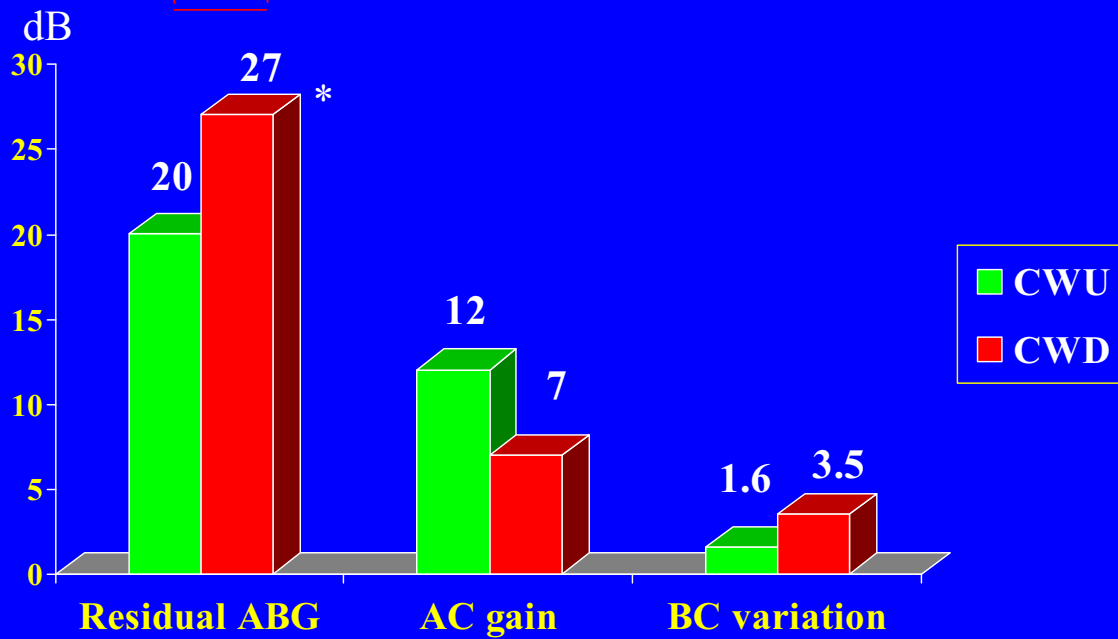


## Anatomical results

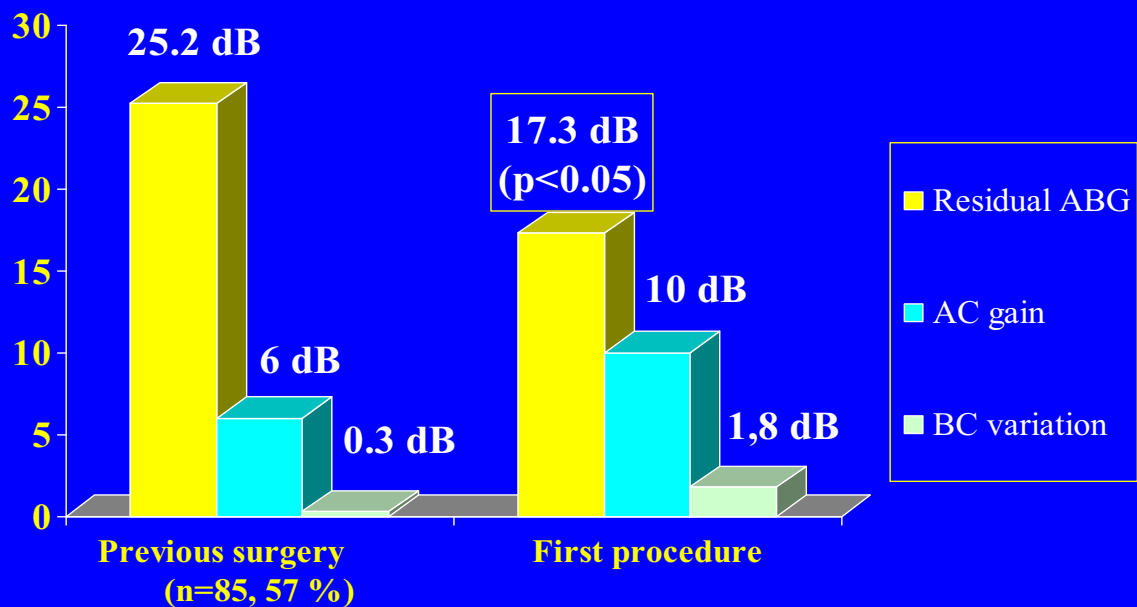
<b>Patients (n=150)</b>	<b>First procedure (n=150)</b>	<b>Residuals (n=14) Op via CWU</b>	<b>Recurrences (n=6) Op via CWD</b>
<b>85 (57%) Revision</b>	<b>25 CWU 60 CWD</b>	<b>10 residuals (11.7 %)</b>	<b>3 recurrences (3.5 %)</b>
<b>65 (43%) First surgery</b>	<b>65 CWU</b>	<b>4 residuals (6 %)</b>	<b>3 recurrences (4.6 %)</b>

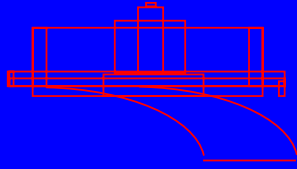


## Mastoidectomy functional results



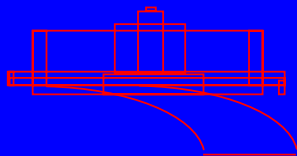
## Functional results in first and revision procedures





## Prosthesis anatomical results

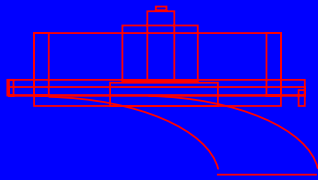
- 10 extrusions (6 %) after a 2 years delay :
  - 6 Goldenberg® (17 %)
  - 4 teflon prostheses (28 %)



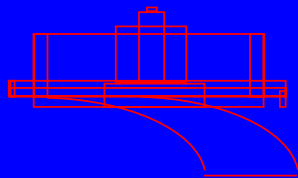
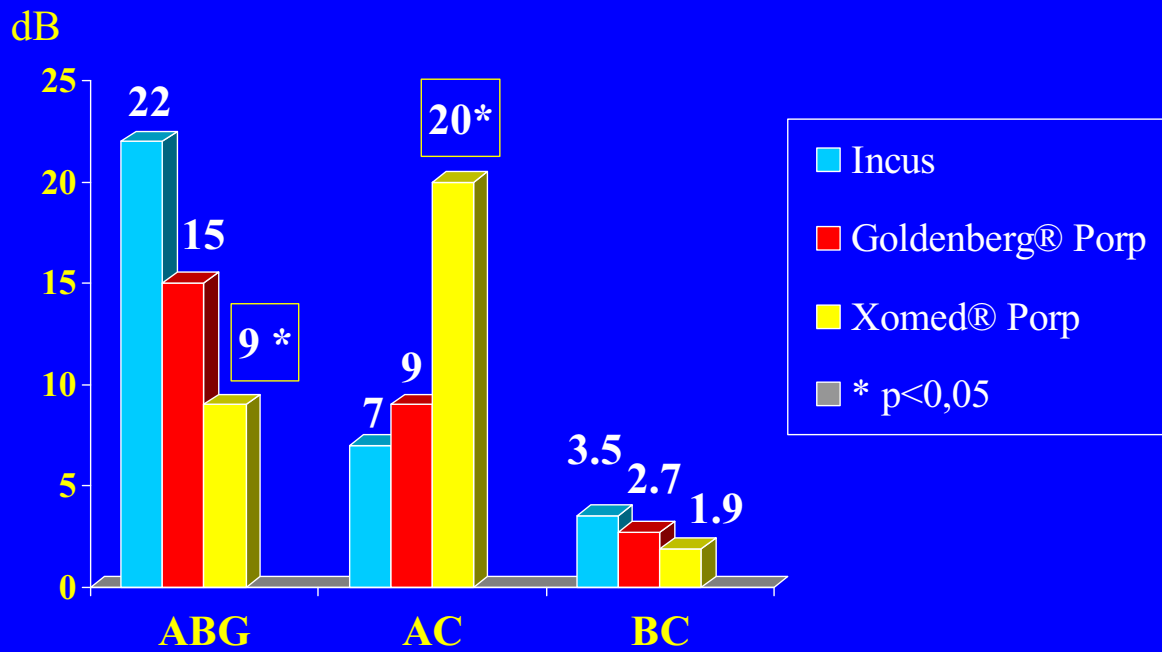
## Functional results

- ABG:  $22 \pm 16.5$  dB, ABG < 20 dB: 60 %
- Air conduction gain :  $14 \pm 14,5$  dB

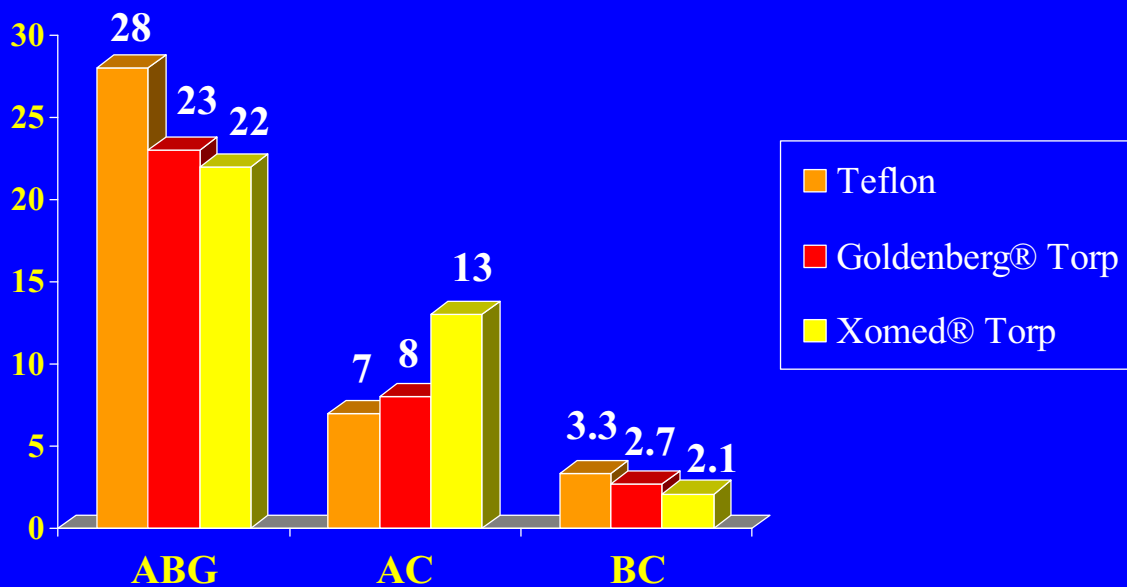
24 months	ABG	% ABG < 20 dB	AC gain	BC variation 4 KHz
Type II tympanoplasty (n=40)	$20 \pm 9,2$	65%	$15,0 \pm 14$	$2 \pm 10$
Type III tympanoplasty (n=51)	$26 \pm 12,9$	48,00%	$13,3 \pm 13$	$3 \pm 9,2$
p (Anova test)	p = 0,0001	p = 0,0003	NS	NS

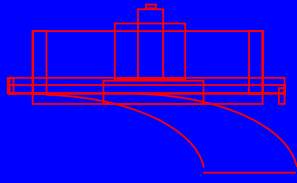


## PORP functional results



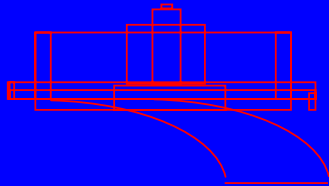
## TORP functional results





## Negative influencing factors on functional results (ABG)

- Canal wall down (n=70) mastoidectomy versus canal wall up (n=100):  $p < 0.05$
- Second surgical procedure versus first surgery (85 patients, 57 %):  $p < 0.001$
- Absent stapes arch (n=51):  $p < 0.001$
- Cholesteatoma (n=170) versus chronic otitis media (n=400):  $p < 0.02$



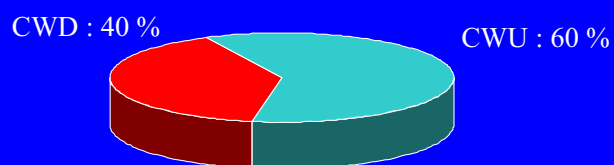
## Conclusions

- Middle ear cholesteatoma in adult can be well cured by one stage procedure including ossicular chain reconstruction
- Regular clinical control, and systematic CT scan in case of closed technique are required
- Hydroxylapatite prostheses covered with cartilage achieved a valuable hearing restoration

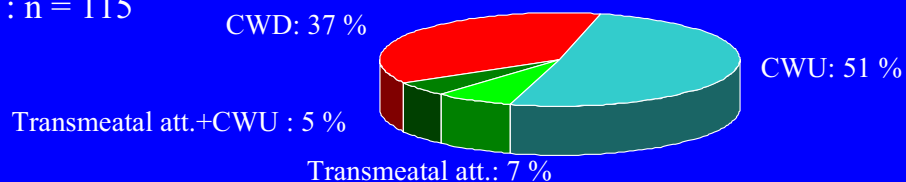
# Technical progression : The transmeatal atticotomy

## Progression of techniques

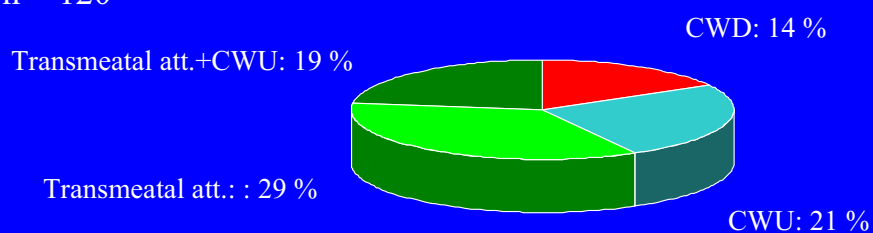
■ 1985-1994 : n = 105



■ 1994-1997 : n = 115



■ 1998-2001 : n = 120



# Transmeatal atticotomy

## *Indications*

Cholesteatoma limited to the external attic  
Attical retraction pockets  
Ossicular fixation in the attic



# Transmeatal atticotomy

- 1996-2001: 65 patients
- 38 males, and 27 females
- Mean age: 44 years (13-74)
- Mean follow-up period: 16 months (2-36)
- 39 first surgeries, and 26 revisions
- Indications :
  - Attical retraction pocket: 43 (66 %)
  - Attical cholesteatoma: 22 (34 %)



## Preoperative audiometry

- Preoperative PTA:  $45 \pm 2.1$  dB
- Mean preoperative ABG:  $28 \pm 1.3$  dB
- Preoperative ABG  $< 20$  dB in 18 patients (27 %)

## Surgical technique

- Retroauricular approach
- Flap protection by a silastic sheet during drilling
- Thin cartilage slice for reconstruction (tragus or concha)



## Technique

- Associated procedures in 28 cases (42 %):
  - CWU mastoidectomy: 24 (86 %)
  - CWU + posterior tympanotomy: 4 (14 %)
  
- Tympanic membrane graft in 53 cases (81 %) :
  - Under the malleus handle: 44 (83 %)
  - Over the malleus handle: 9 (17 %)
  
- Ossicular reconstruction in 50 cases (77 %):
  - Hydroxylapatite: 45 (90 %)
  - Autograft: 2 (4 %)
  - Other prostheses: 3 (6 %)

## Anatomical results

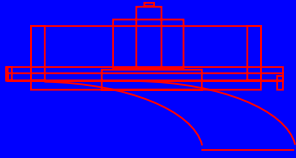
- Normal tympanic membrane: 55 (85 %)
- Recurrence of retraction pocket: 8 (12 %)
- Perforation: 1 (1.5 %)
- Tympanosclerosis: 1 (1.5 %)
  
- One revision surgery for cholesteatoma recurrence:  
Canal wall down mastoidectomy

## Postoperative functional results

- Mean ABG:  $21 \pm 1.4$  (*versus*  $28 \pm 1.3$  dB preoperatively)
- PTA:  $36 \pm 2,7$  (*versus*  $45 \pm 2.1$  dB preoperatively)
- Residual ABG < 20 dB: 32 patients ( 50%) (*versus* 27% preoperatively)
- secondary displacements of the prosthesis: 4 (8%)

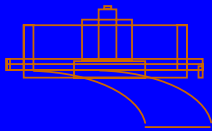
## Conclusions

- Progression of the surgical strategy towards :
  - Transmeatal atticotomy + CWU mastoidectomy +/- posterior tympanotomy
  - Transmeatal atticotomy alonein selected cases
- This technique allows a direct, and easy access to the attic

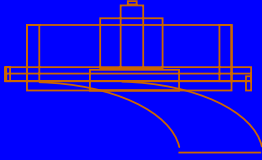


## Summary

- Transmeatal atticotomy (TA) in:
  - Limited attic cholesteatoma
- TA+CWU mastoidectomy: Extended cholesteatoma with pneumatised mastoid, and posterior tympanotomy in selected cases)
- CWD mastoidectomy in:
  - Recurrence
  - Sclerotic mastoid
- Temporal muscle flap except in case of ongoing infection

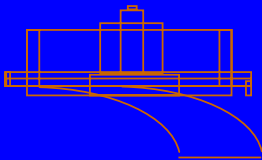


## Complications : Labyrinthine fistula



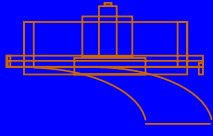
## Population

- 1986-1996: Among 252 patients operated on for cholesteatoma, 33 (13%) presented with a labyrinthine fistula



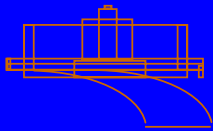
## Population

- 29 files were studied (4 were not available).
- 19 males and 10 females with mean age of 47 year (24-87 y).
- 14 patients (48%) had been operated one to four times previously.



## CLINICAL ASPECTS

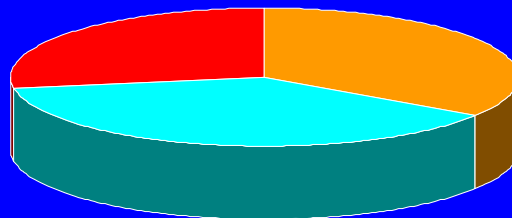
- Otorrhea: 72%
- Vertigo: 45%
- Facial palsy: 13% (associated with total hearing loss in 3 cases out of 4)
- Positive fistula sign: 34%



## Palva classification of fistulas

• Stage 3 - Labyrinthine fistula  $> 2$  mm \*:  
8 cases

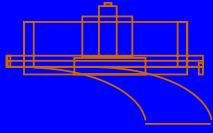
Stage 1 - Simple bone erosion:  
10 cases



Stage 2 - Labyrinthine fistula  $< 2$  mm \*:  
11 cases

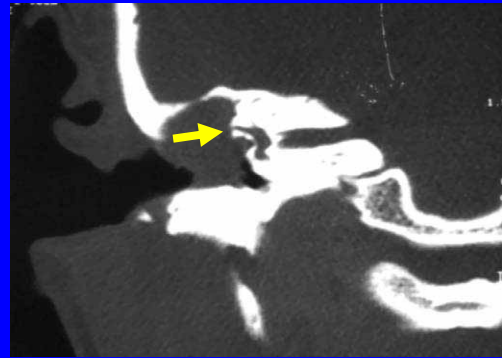
(\* Contact between cholesteatoma and labyrinth)

- In 86% the fistula was located in LSSC
- MRI large fistula or tegmen defect



# Labyrinthine fistula

- CT scan is performant for fistulas > 0.5 mm of diameter
- High resolution, thin overlapping sections in both axial and coronal planes
- Positive CT scan in this series: 76%



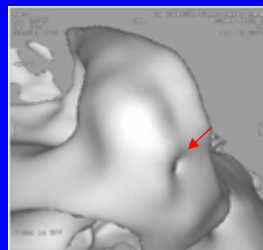
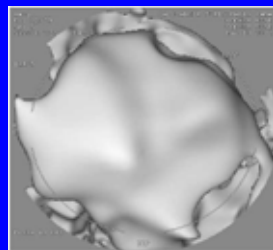
## Virtual endoscopy with threshold variation: Experimental results

mastoidectomy:

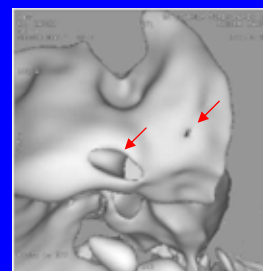
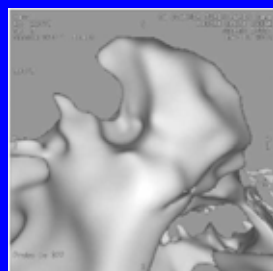
before

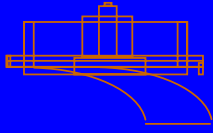
after

Posterior SCC  
(0.3 mm fistula) at  
772 HU



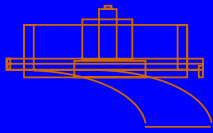
Lateral and  
superior SCC  
(0.5 mm fistulas)  
at 866 HU





## Surgical technique

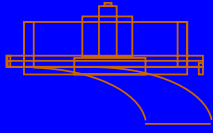
- Cholesteatoma matrix over fistula kept in place until the end of surgery and protected with a silastic sheet
- Open or closed technique was chosen with regard to the size of the mastoid and the extent of the lesion
- Antibiotic therapy was continued for 48h postoperatively



## Surgical technique

- Cholesteatoma matrix removed at the end of the procedure except in case of an only hearing ear or large fistula in elderly
- Fistula covered with temporal fascia and bone or cartilage and fixed with fibrin glue

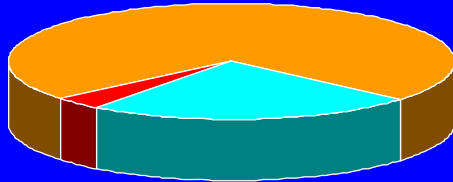




# SURGERY

## Technique

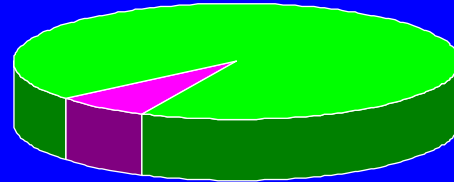
CWD: 72.5%



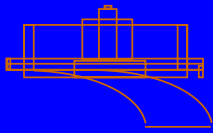
Middle Cranial Fossa: 3.5%  
CWU: 24%

## Cholesteatoma removal

Total: 93%



Partial: 7%

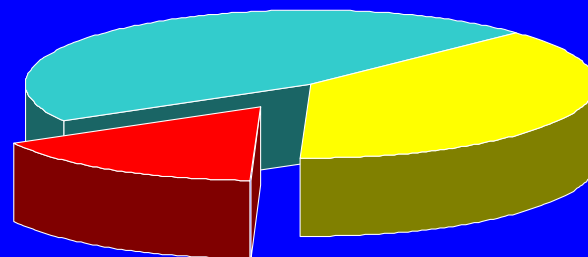


# Follow-up

- Medium 18 months (1 month to 5 years)
- Up to 1 year in 21 patients (72%)

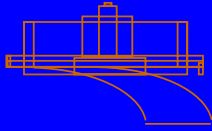
## Hearing function

Better: 46%

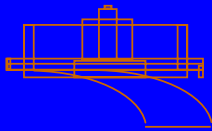
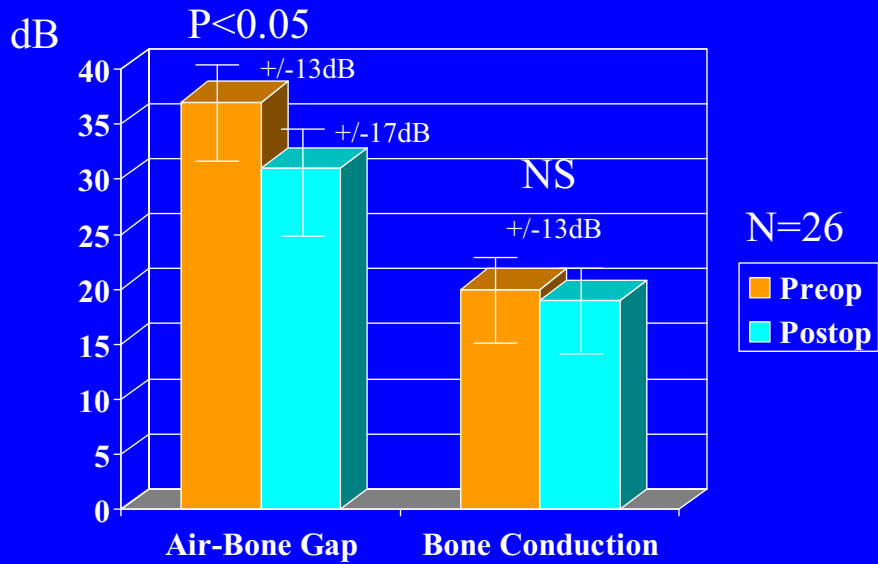


Not changed: 39%

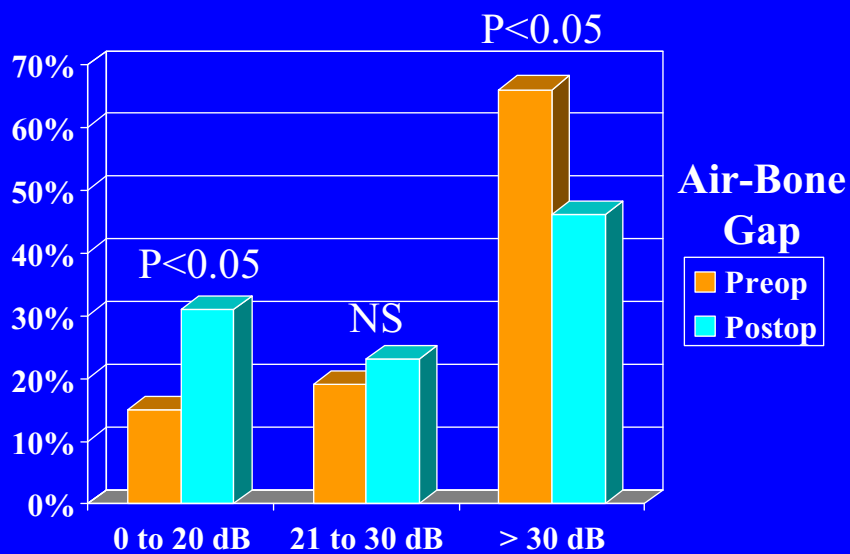
Worse: 15%

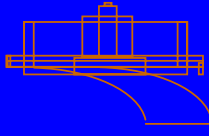


## Hearnig function



## Hearing function

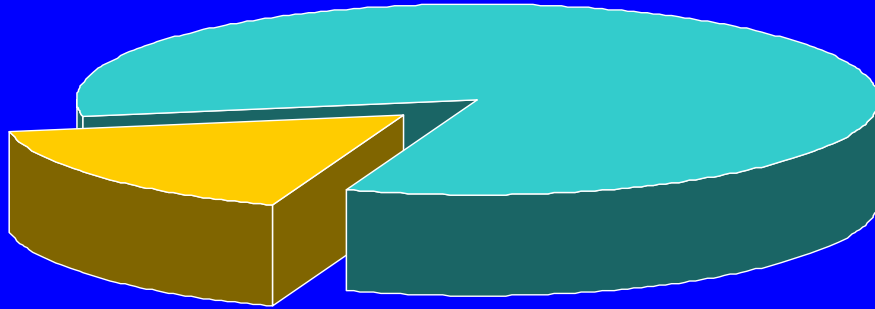




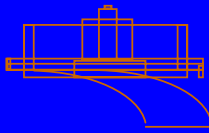
## Postoperative dizziness

at 3 months postoperatively

No dizziness: 83%



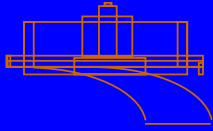
Dizziness: 17%



## Revision surgery

N=10 (34%)

- Bone reconstruction: 6 cases
- Residual cholesteatoma: 3 cases
- Tegmen defect: one case



## Conclusions

- The Labyrinthine fistula is still a frequent complication of middle ear cholesteatoma.
- CT-scan is performant in detecting fistulas  $> 0.5$  mm of diameter.
- This complication should be detected preoperatively in order to avoid inner ear traumatism during cholesteatoma removal.
- Fistula should be protected during cholesteatoma removal with silastic sheet.