

Table 36: Clinical evidence profile: Hydrogen Peroxide Urea solution ear drops versus Chlorobutanol solution ear drops (repeated applications)

Quality assessment							No of patients		Effect		Quality
No of studies	Design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Hydrogen Peroxide Urea solution ear drops used repeatedly	Chlorobutanol solution ear drops used repeatedly	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute	
No further management of wax needed (follow-up mean 1 weeks)											
1	randomised trials	serious ¹	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	very serious ²	none	10/24 (41.7%)	10/26 (38.5%)	RR 1.08 (0.55 to 2.14)	31 more per 1000 (from 173 fewer to 438 more)	VERY LOW

Adverse event: report side-effect (follow-up mean 1 weeks)											
1	randomised trials	very serious ^{1,3}	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	very serious ²	none	0/24 (0%)	2/26 (7.7%)	OR 0.14 (0.01 to 2.32) ⁴	65 fewer per 1000 (from 76 fewer to 85 more)	VERY LOW

¹ Downgraded by 1 increment if the majority of the evidence was at high risk of bias, and downgraded by 2 increments if the majority of the evidence was at very high risk of bias

² Downgraded by 1 increment if the confidence interval crossed one MID or by 2 increments if the confidence interval crossed both MIDs

³ Of particular concern, withdrawal due to side-effects not included

⁴ Peto Odds Ratio used as no events in one arm