The insertion of pressure equalization tubes (PET) has been the standard of surgical treatment for chronic middle ear dysfunction (ETD). While PET placement is often effective at treating the pressure disequilibrium between the middle ear and external auditory canal, it effectively bypasses the ET and offers no treatment to the presumed osseous section accounting for 12.6 mm. This corresponds to previously reported data.4,5

**DISCUSSION**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Objective**

The mean values and standard deviations (SD) of the disequilibrium between the middle ear and external auditory canal, it effectively bypasses the ET and offers no treatment to the presumed osseous section accounting for 12.6 mm. This corresponds to previously reported data.4,5

**RESULTS**

**METHODS AND MATERIALS**

The study group consisted of 33 patients (19 males, 11 females; mean age 58 years; range 38-86 years). The axial CT images from each patient were inputted into the Voxar 3D software for multiplanar reconstruction (MPR) analysis. Double oblique MPR images (Figures 1 and 2) of each Eustachian tube from a video laryngoscope that bypasses the nose were made to perform precise measurements of anatomic reference points. These anatomic reference points were then used to accurately execute an endoscopic balloon-dilation of the ET in four human cadaver heads to test its safety and utility.

**METHODS**

Radiographic analysis was performed on the 66 Eustachian tubes of these 33 patients (10 males, 23 females; mean age 58 years; range 38-86 years). The $C_1$ CT images from each patient were imported into the Voxar 3D software for multiplanar reconstruction (MPR) analysis. Double oblique MPR images (Figures 1 and 2) of each Eustachian tube from a video laryngoscope that bypasses the nose were made to perform precise measurements of anatomic reference points. These anatomic reference points were then used to accurately execute an endoscopic balloon-dilation of the ET in four human cadaver heads to test its safety and utility.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Endoscopic balloon Eustachian tuboplasty (EBET) offers the promise of a direct treatment of Eustachian tube dysfunction in adults. If proves to be a low cost, low morbidity option for patients with chronic ETD, it might avail otolaryngologists with this difficult problem. Further investigation needs to be performed to fully evaluate its potential clinical impact. From this study, low risk to the internal carotid artery and carotid canal should be expected from this intervention. However, this potentially serious complication should always be considered when engaging in endoscopic treatment of the ET.

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5. P theme.

**ABSTRACT**

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