INTRODUCTION

The diagnosis of Eustachian tube dysfunctions is essential for better understanding of the pathogenesis of chronic otitis media. A series of tests to assess tube function are described in the literature; however, they are methodologically heterogeneous, with differences ranging from application protocols to standardization of tests and their results.

OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the variation in middle ear pressure in patients with tympanic membrane retraction and in normal patients during tube function tests, as well as to evaluate intra-individual variation between these tests.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

An observational, contemporary cross-sectional study was conducted, in which the factor under study was the variation in middle ear pressure during tube function tests (Valsalva maneuver, Sniff Test, Toynbee maneuver) in healthy patients and in patients with mild and moderate/severe tympanic retraction. A total of 38 patients (76 ears) were included. Tube function tests were performed at two different time points to determine pressure measurements after each maneuver. Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS software, version 18.0 (mixed-effects models and Bland-Altman method). Considering p-values < 0.05 as statistically significant.

REFERENCES