



Hyperbilirubinemia and Auditory Neuropathy

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Introduction

Over the past decades, the department has focused on the treatment and research of deafness and has achieved great accomplishments. Currently, average daily outpatient visits to the department have reached close to 1,000. Despite the heavy work load and limited manpower, the department strives to ensure the quality as well as the volume of its expert clinics on daily basis, to maintain high quality patient care and lab testing, and to secure its outpatient services as the first window and platform to providing effective services to patients. Its surgeons perform more than 5,000 surgical procedures each year, more than 30% of which are complex and/or high-risk cases. As its practice branches out, sub-specialties including microsurgical otology/neurotology, rhinology/minimal invasive skull base surgery, head/neck/skull base surgery, audiology medicine/head and neck oncology, laryngology/voice disorders, facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, and geriatric care have been established. Also created in the department are the auditory implant center, clinical audiology center, molecular deafness diagnosis center, dizziness management center, endoscopy center and voice medicine center. As the field of otology has rapidly developed, the traditional view of otology as a surgical discipline is challenged. A new sub-specialty-audiology medicine was first founded within the department of otolaryngology head and neck Surgery in June 2008, with its separated ward unit allocated in November 2010. This new sub-specialty unit has made great advances in management of hearing loss, tinnitus, dizziness and other inner ear diseases, as well as in managing head and neck oncology cases with combined therapies, and continues to explore a new path in internal medicine otolaryngology suitable for the Chinese patient population.

Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery

The department has kept a leading position in the field of microscopic ear surgery. We were the first to perform inner ear

fenestration procedures in the 1950s and first to perform stapedectomy in 1962 in China. We have performed more than 6,000 stapes procedures and more than 20,000 cases of middle ear surgeries to date with high effective rates. In auditory implantation, we have built a systematic diagnostic and therapeutic approach including pre-operative evaluation, minimal invasive cochlear implantation, post-operative programming, speech rehabilitation, and genetic testing and consultation, by an expert team. Since our first multi-channel cochlear implantation in 1996, we have completed over 1,700 cases and we are among the first to adopt new auditory implantation technologies (e.g. vibrant soundbridge and BAHAs) and have become the largest auditory implantation center in China. Diagnosis and treatment of neurotologic diseases is another feature of this department. Our group has performed nearly 350 cases of acoustic neuroma resection (complete resection in 98%) since the 1980s and we are in a leading position in facial and auditory function preservation in China. We have also built leading positions in skull base surgery, rhinology and voice disorder treatment in China. The practice scope of our head and neck surgery group covers treatment of extensive malignancies and benign lesions of the larynx, hypopharynx, temporal bone and infratemporal fossa, including procedures such as total and subtotal temporal bone resection, extended temporal bone resection, resection of jugular glomous tumors via a combined temporal-cervical approach, and resection of petroclival tumors, CPA meningioma, cholesteatoma and choroidal tumors. Our efforts have saved many lives and are appraised by colleagues as well as patients. In addition to managing common nasal diseases, our rhinology group has also expanded its practice to cover anterior skull base and orbital surgeries. Our laryngology group performs various microscopic vocal cord procedures and voice change surgeries. It also provides polysomnography evaluation for sleep apnea and is the first in China to use da Vinci robot-assisted surgical system in treating sleep apnea with satisfying results. The group has also published multiple books and multi-media materials on voice disorders and voice surgeries. As the department practice continues to expand with rapidly increasing patient visits and surgery volumes and no manpower supplement, the department leadership has taken measures to boost the sense of responsibility and service among personnel at various posts, which helps maintaining a positive attitude among the staff. In dealing with heavy workloads, the department advocates its senior faculty as models and relies on young and middle aged surgeons as the engine work force to ensure continuous improvement in patient care quality and to achieve great success in both service and financial gains.