

LABYRINTHITIS

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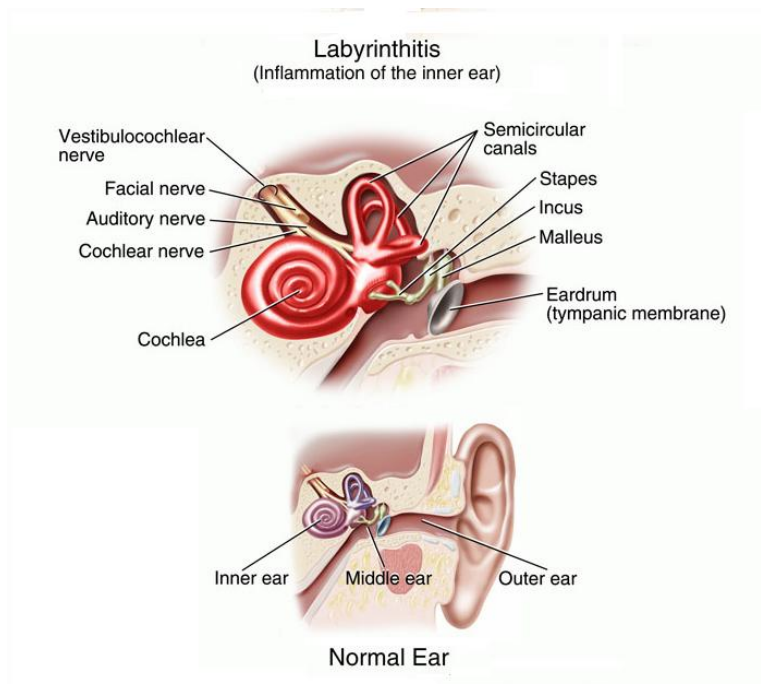
IMPORTANT

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Introduction

Labyrinthitis is an inflammation of the inner ear that is often a result of infection of the middle ear (otitis media). It is usually caused by the spread of bacterial or viral infections from the head or respiratory tract into the inner ear.



Description

The labyrinth is a group of interconnected canals and chambers which are located in the inner ear. The labyrinth consists of the cochlea and the semi-circular canals. The semi-circular canals monitor

and transmit information to the brain about the head's orientation and movement. The cochlea is involved in converting sounds to a format that can be received by the brain.

The brain uses the labyrinth generated data to maintain balance.

Labyrinthitis is caused by the inflammation of the labyrinth, and its most common symptom is dizziness (vertigo) in consequence of the "distorted", information that the semi-circular canals send to the brain regarding the head's orientation and movement.

Labyrinthitis not uncommon; however, it is more likely to occur after middle ear infections, meningitis, or upper respiratory infection. It may also occur after trauma, because of a tumour, or after the ingesting of allergenic or toxic substances.

Research suggests that Labyrinthitis is more common in females than in males.

Causes and symptoms

When a pathogen causes labyrinthitis, it typically reaches the inner ear by one of three routes:

- 1) Bacteria may be carried from the middle ear or the membranes that cover the brain.
- 2) Viruses, such as those that cause mumps, measles, colds, and flu may reach the inner ear following an upper respiratory infection.

The rubella virus can, in fact, cause labyrinthitis in infants prior to birth.

- 3) Labyrinthitis can also be caused by toxins, by a tumour in the ear, by trauma to the ear, and sometimes to medications or allergies.

The primary symptoms of labyrinthitis are dizziness, impaired balance, and possible hearing degradation. This may also be a sensation of ringing, or rushing, in the ears, which has the general name of "tinnitus".

Dizziness and impaired balance occurs in consequence of the inner ear controlling the sense of balance, as well as hearing. Some individuals also experience nausea, vomiting, and spontaneous eye movements in the direction of the unaffected ear.

Bacterial labyrinthitis may produce a discharge from the infected ear.

Recommendations

Ferr Phos
Calc Sulph

Vit C
Zinc
Co-Enzyme Q10
High Strength Garlic Tabs
Ginkgo Biloba
Magnesium

The following are indicated if Tinnitus is present:

Resveratrol (a natural compound found in red wine, raspberries, mulberries, blueberries, and peanuts)
Vinpocetine (an extract from the leaves of the periwinkle plant)
Ipriflavone (a substance found in soybeans called a phytoestrogen)

Homeopathic Recommendations

Cocculus indicus (30C)

Lobelia inflata (30C)
Gelsemium (30C)
Bryonia alba (30C)

End

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