# Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy: Indications

Dr Asanda Makunga FCORL(SA) MMed (L et O)

Specialist Otolaryngologist

Steve Biko Academic Hospital

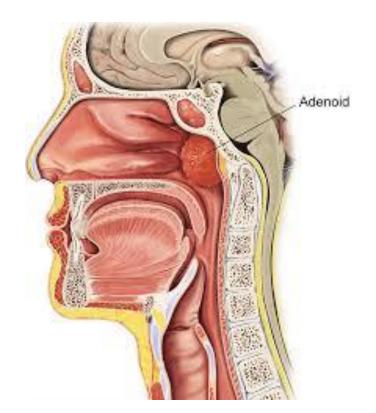
# Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy: Indications

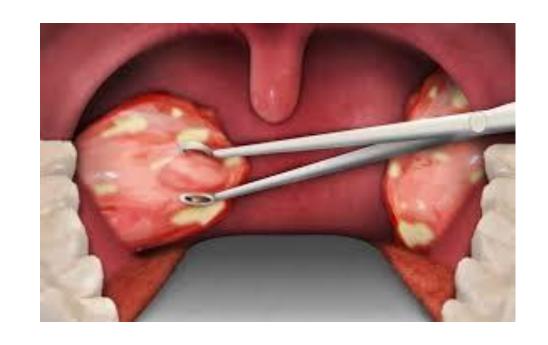
- Terminology
  - Tonsillectomy
    - Surgical Removal of the Palatine Tonsils
  - Adenoidectomy
    - Surgical removal of the adenoidal lymphoid pad
  - Adenotonsillectomy
    - The surgical removal of both the palatine tonsil & the adenoid

# Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy: Indications

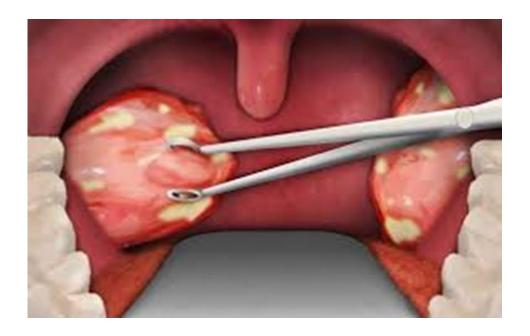
- Most common Indications
  - Recurrent Infections
  - Airway obstruction (Sleep Disordered Breathing)





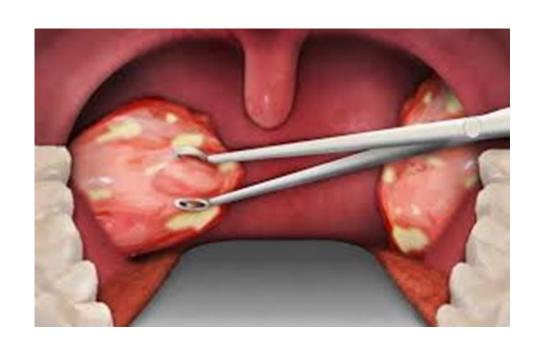


- One of the commonest operations
- Frequency varies from region to region

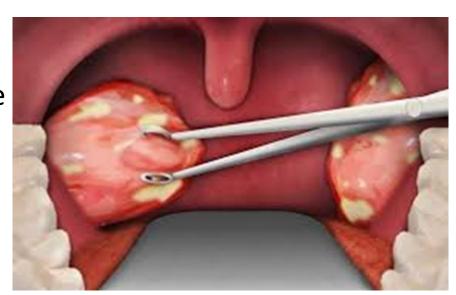


#### **Indications**

- Obstruction
  - Oropharyngeal airway
  - Oropharyngeal deglutitory pathway
- Infections
  - Recurrent tonsillitis and its complications



- Considerations for Children
  - Tonsil related problems often decline with age
  - Decision for tonsillectomy is individualized
  - Risk/Benefits of Tonsillectomy
  - Natural course of disease
  - Frequency & severity of episodes
  - Childs tolerance to antimicrobial therapy
  - Performance at school and illness related absence
  - Access to health care services



#### **Indications**

- Obstructive sleep apnea
- Recurrent tonsillitis
- Severely affected children
- PFAPA Syndrome
- Peritonsillar abscess

#### Other

Dysphagia

Altered Voice quality

Malignancy

Refractory halitosis

Chronic Pharyngeal carriage

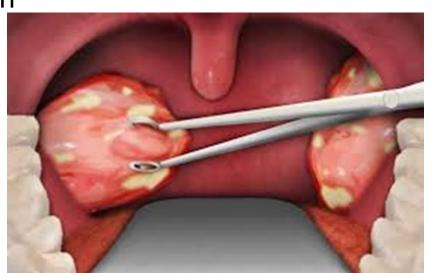
### Obstructive Sleep Apnoea

- Common paediatric problem
- Complications
  - Cardiovascular and cognitive morbidity
- Adenotonsillectomy
  - 1st line treatment for otherwise healthy children
  - Should ideally be older than age 2
  - Still considered in absence of tonsillar hypertrophy
- Syndromic children
  - Multilevel obstruction
  - Surgery still considered with caution



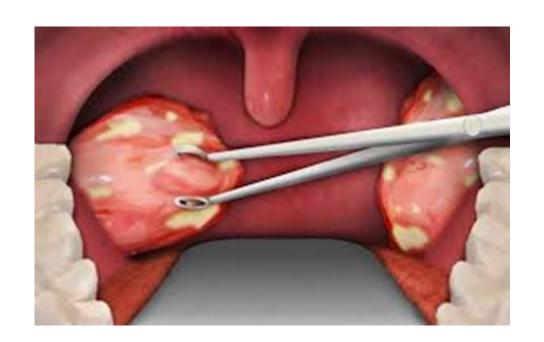
### Recurent Throat Infection

- Benefits depend on frequency & severity
- Documentation of previous episodes
  - Outcome is poorly predicted without documentation
  - Medico-legal concerns



### Paradise Criteria 2002

- 7 episodes in 1 year
- 5 episodes per year for 2 years
- 3 episodes each year for 3 years
- Clinical features of one or more
  - Temp > 38,3°
  - Tender lymphadenopathy
  - Tonsillar/pharyngeal exudate
  - Positive culture for Group A beta-haemolytic Streptococcus
  - Previous response to antibiotics



# American Academy of Otolaryngology & Head and Neck (AAO-HNS) Guidelines 2019

- Severely affected children
  - 7 or more episodes in a year
  - 5 episodes each year for 2 consecutive years
  - 3 episodes each year consecutively
  - Surgery suggested as 1<sup>st</sup> operation



### AAO-HNS Guidelines 2019

- Severely affected Children
  - Each episode characterised by
    - Oral temperature > 38.3°
    - Inflammed tonsils
    - Tender jugulodigastiric lymph nodes
    - Tonsillar exudate
    - (+) culture for Group A beta-hemolytic *Streptococcus*
  - Good response to antibiotics for previous episodes



### AAO-HNS Guidelines 2019

- Mildly or moderately affected children
  - episodes are less frequent than ones mentioned above
  - less severe in any degree than described above
  - Benefits of surgery are modest, outweighed by risks
  - Tonsillectomy is not advised
  - Exceptions made for
    - Multiple antibiotic allergy/intolerance
    - Peritonsillar abscess
    - Rheumatic fever
    - Post streptococcal glomerulonephiritis



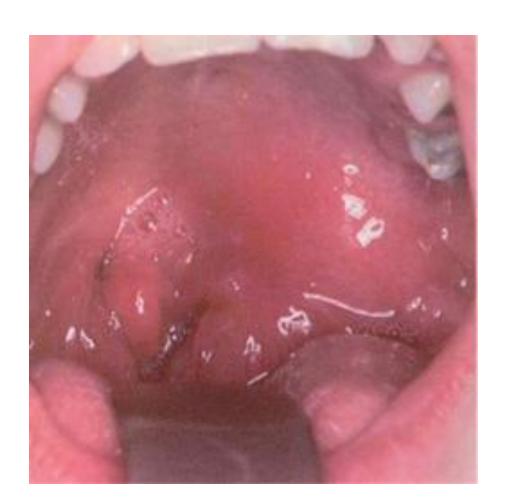
### PFAPA syndrome

- Periodic fever
  - Every 2 8 weeks, preceded by aphthous ulcers
- Aphthous stomatitis
- Pharyngitis
- Cervical adenitis
- Tonsillectomy
  - Controversial since syndrome benign
  - Poor response to conservative treatment
    - Steroids, analgesia topical anaesthetics
    - Prophylactic therapy (cimetidine)
  - Poor quality of life



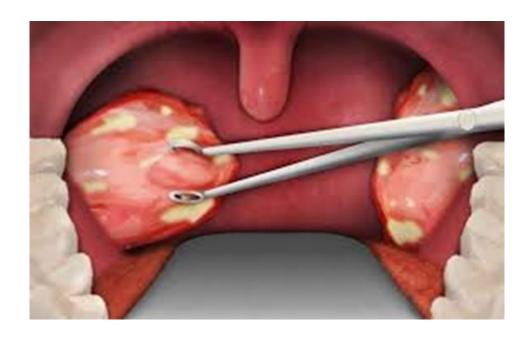
### Peritonsillar Abscess

- Traditional indications
  - Significant upper airway obstruction
  - Previous episodes of recurrent tonsillitis
  - Recurrent peritonsilar abscess
- Recently
  - Hot tonsillectomy



### Contraindications

- Acute tonsillitis
- Heamatological





## Adenoidectomy



### Adenoidectomy

- Principal Indications
  - Nasal obstruction due to adenoidal hypertrophy
    - mouth breathing
    - hyponasal speech
    - Obstructive sleep apnoea (adenotonsillectomy)
  - Adenoid facies
    - Controversial
  - Chronic rhinosinusitis (children)
  - Otitis media



## Adenoidectomy

- Contraindications
  - Velopahryngeal insufficiency
  - Heamatological
  - Acute infection



## Questions

## Thank You

### Referrences

- Tonsillectomy and/or adenoidectomy in children: Indications and contraindications: Jack L Paradise, MDEllen R Wald, MD. UpToDate 2019
- 2. Peritonsillar cellulitis and abscess: Ellen R Wald, MD. UpToDate 2019
- 3. Tonsillectomy in adults: Indications: :Nicholas Busaba, MD, FACSShira Doron, MD. UpToDate 2019
- 4. Images google Images