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Atresia of the Auditory Canal

H.G.

Roohé

From the E.N.T. Department (Head: Prof. Dr. W. H. Struben) Dijkzigt Ziekenhuis, Rotterdam

Author's address: H. G. Roohé, M. D., E.N.T., Department Dijkzigtziekenhuis, Rotterdam (Netherlands)

There are two groups of atresia of the auditory canal: the congenital atresia and the acquired atresia. Specially under discussion are the difficulties of the surgical treatment of the congenital atresia of the auditory canal.

The interpretation of the radiological findings is most important as there seems to be a connection between the cell formation in the mastoid and the abnormalities of the ossicles. From three methods of operation the one followed by Ombrédanne seems to give the best results. In all cases he inspects the middle ear and the ossicles, always removing mallet and incus and laying a skin graft on the stapes. When finding the stapes abnormal or fixed in the oval window, he makes a fenestration of the horizontal canal of the labyrinth.

The greatest risk of the operation is the damage of an abnormally situated facial nerve.

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