

ANTRAL LAVAGE USING THE LUMA TRANSILLUMINATION WIRE AND VORTEX- A SAFE & EFFECTIVE ADVANCE IN TREATING PEDIATRIC SINUSITIS

Jacob W Zeiders (M.D.)

Jacob W Zeiders M.D. (1)

Zarna J Dahya (1)

1) Florida State University College of Medicine

Treatment of pediatric chronic sinusitis is a controversial topic. When maximum medical management has failed, physicians' options include adenoidectomy, adenoidectomy with antral lavage, IV antibiotic therapy, and traditional FESS. While adenoidectomy alone has been shown to be effective in some cases, refractory cases have left the surgeon few choices. Proceeding directly to FESS has the disadvantages of possibly altering midface development and exposing the child to the well described risks of FESS itself. Adenoidectomy combined with antral lavage has also been well described using various techniques and recent evidence has shown it to be more effective in treating pediatric chronic sinusitis than adenoidectomy alone. We describe our experience using a new technology- the LUMA fiberoptic light wire with VORTEX irrigator to perform antral lavage. This technique has several advantages: 1) confirmation of position in the maxillary sinus by transillumination, 2) "over the wire" technique thereby improving safety and accuracy of the lavage, 3) ability to balloon dilate the natural ostium and ethmoid infundibulum or obtain cultures at the time of lavage if desired, 4) avoidance of radiation from the use of fluoroscopy described in most balloon sinuplasty techniques, and 5) no alteration of normal anatomy. This technique represents an improvement over other methods of lavage and truly gives the surgeon a reliable, safe, versatile, and efficacious alternative to more invasive procedures in the pediatric population with chronic sinusitis.