Sarcoidosis

- Otologic manifestations
 - bilateral parotid gland enlargement
 - sicca syndrome
 - sinusitis
 - cervical lymphadenopathy
 - cranial nerve palsies
 - lupus pernio

- Group od disorders of the reticuloendothelial system that are characterized by a proliferation of cytologically benign histiocytes
 - Eosinophylic granuloma
 - Hand-Shuller-Christian disease
 - Letterer Siwe disease
- Unknown etiology (immunological basis?)

- Otologic manifestations occur in 15-61%
 - mastoid (common site)
 - otic capsule
 - facial nerve
- It could be the initial presentation of the disease
- Diagnosis suggested by an inflammatory disorder of the middle ear and mastoid that does not respond to antibiotic therapy

Cunningham MJ et al.; Arch Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg 1989

Otologic symptoms and signs

- otorrhea
- postauricular swelling
- hearing loss
- vertigo
- granulation tissue or aural polyps in the external auditory
- perforation of the tympanic membrane
- otitis media or externa
- mastoid fistula

- Rx: destructive lesions in the mastoid and temporal bones
- Because the surface of the granulation tissue often shows injection, necrosis and fibrosis, biopsy specimens should be taken from deeper part of the lesion

Histiocytes

Eosinophils, Plasma Cell, PMN, Multinucluated Cells

Systemic lupus erythematous (LE)

 Widespread fibrinoid degeneration of the collagen fibers that affects the mesenchymal tissues

Classification

- Chronic cutaneous LE
 - discoid (DLE)
 - generalized DLE
 - hypertrophicD LE
- Subacute cutaneous LE
- Acute cutaneous LE

Systemic lupus erythematous

- Tipically involves the bridge of the nose, malar areas, ears and scalp (15%)
- Otologic manifestations
 - chronic otitis media
 - hearing loss
 - disequilibrium

Systemic lupus erythematous

- Contributing factors
 - ultraviolet light
 - cold
 - thermal burn
 - physical trauma
- Lesion: well-circumscribed papule or plaque with follicolar plugging

Rheumatoid arthritis

- Chronic systemic inflammatory disease that affects the small joints in a symmetric fashion
- Extrarticular manifestation:
 - vasculitis
 - muscle atrophy
 - subcutaneous nodules
 - lymphadenopathy
 - splenomegaly
 - leukopenia

Rheumatoid arthritis

- Otologic manifestation (rare)
 - loosening of the tranducer mechanism
 - vestibuloauditory dysfunction

 Relationship between Rheumatoid Arthritis and inner-ear dysfunction is not clear

Conclusions

- The incidence of ear and nose involvement in systemic diseases varies between the diseases
- Because of the difficult diagnosis, a biopsy specimen is always needed
- The treatment does not vary from the generalized forms, except in rare cases (mastoid surgery for Hx)