# PREVALENCE OF TONSILLOMYCOSES IN SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

(A MYCO-HISTOPATHOLOGICAL STUDY)

#### thesis

submitted in partial fulfillment of M.Sc. Degree in Otorhinolaryngology

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### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome

APCs Antigen-Presenting cells
ASCS Antibody-Secreting cells

BLPB β-lactamase producing bacteria

Entero Enterobacteriaceae sp.

GABHS Group A beta-haemolytic streptococci

GALT Gut associated lymphoid tissue

GC Germinal center

GMS Gomori's methenamine silver stain

HE Hematoxylin and eosin stain
Hinf Hemophilus influenzae

HIV Human immunodeficiency virus
MALT Mucosa associated lymphoid tissue

M cells Membrane cells

Morax Moraxella catarrhalis

NALT Nasal associated lymphoid tissue

Nies Neisseria

: 31

OTH Obstructive tonsillar hypertrophy

Paer Pseudomonas aeruginosa
PAS Periodic acid-Schiff stain

PDH Progressive disseminated histoplasmosis

PMNs Polymorphonuclear leukocytes

PT Palatine tonsils
RT Recurrent tonsillitis
Saur Staphylococcus aureus

SIgA Secretory immunoglobulin A
SIgM Secretory immunoglobulin M
Svir Streptoggogue

Svir Streptococcus viridans

Th Thelper

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#### LIST OF TABLES

		Page
Table (1):	: The approximate lymphocytic distribution in various	
	human tissues	7
Table (2):		
Table (3):		
	in fissue sections	40
<b>Table (4):</b>	Medical conditions predisposing to fungal infection	
Table (5);	latrogenic Factors Predisposing to Fungal Infection	
Table (6):	Clinical classification of oral candidiasis	
Table (7):	Mean ± SD of tonsillar diameter and the statistical	
	comparison between tonsillar specimens with and without	
	Actinomyces	61
Table (8):	Distribution of the studied tonsillar specimens with and	_
	without Actinomyces in relation to superficial ulceration of	
	the mucosal surface	62
Table (9):	Correlation between epithelial hyperplasia and cases with	
	and without Actinomyces	63
Table (10);	Incidence of hyperkeratosis of squamous epithelium in	,
	case with and without Actinomyces	64
Гаble (11):	Correlation between interstitial fibrosis and cases with and	
	without Actinomyces	65
Гаble (12):	Distribution of the studied tonsillar specimens with and	,, 03
	without Actinomyces in relation to congested blood vessels	66

33



#### **CONTENTS**

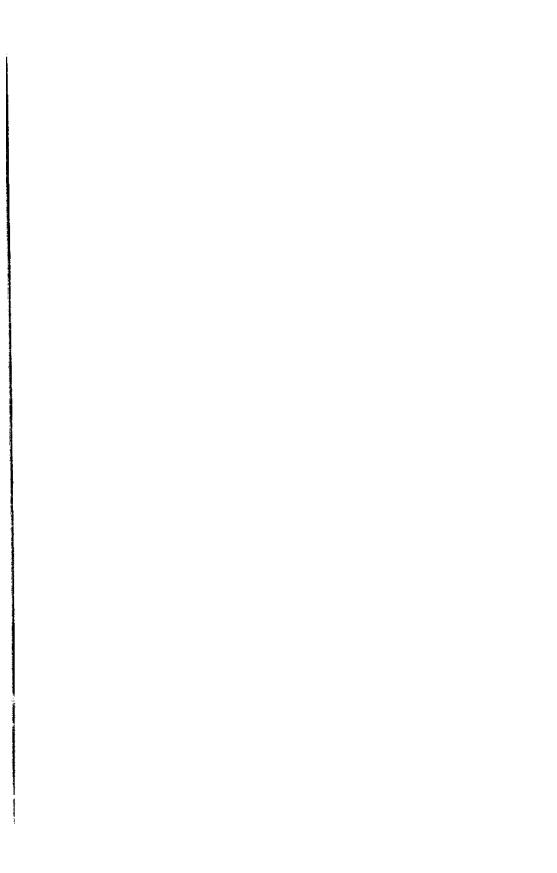
Introduction	Page
Aim of the work	
Review of Literature	
Immunological view	
Embryogenesis of Waldeyer's ring	
Surgical anatomy of Waldeyer's rmg	
Physiology of Waldeyer's ring	
Histopathology of tonsils	25
Clinical microbiology of Waldeyer's ring	
Basic mycology	
Fungal infections of oral cavity	
Materials and Methods	
Results	
Discussion	
Conclusion	
Summary	
References	
Tabic summary	





## Introduction





#### INTRODUCTION

Approximately 11 percent of all school age children will seek medical care for pharyngitis, accounting for 5 percent of pediatric visits annually. In addition, this complaint is responsible for 40 million adult visits to a clinician. These figures all reflect many hours of lost school and work time (Francis, 1987).

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The tonsils and adenoids are situated at the entrance of the respiratory and alimentary tracts and represent the first site of contact with a variety of microorganisms and other antigenic substances present in food and inhaled air (William et al., 1987).

The palatine tonsils are most active between the ages of 4 to 10 years with a marked decrease after the age of 20, However, other researchers are of the opinion that the palatine tonsils are in a very active state in much younger children, and even in infants who have experienced no tonsillar disease (Stoltenberg et al., 1995).

The tonsils of children suffering from recurrent adenotonsillitis had an abnormal oro- and nasopharyngeal flora, which reverted to a non-pathogenic microflora after adenotonsillectomy, in the absence of surgical intervention, a complexity of factors must be responsible for the perpetuation of this abnormal bacteriology (Sheena et al., 1981).

Chronic non-specific tonsillitis is a controversial condition, the organisms are usually cocci. Colonies of actinomycetes are by no means uncommon. Careful microscopic examination of sections, however, may show unequivocal superficial invasion of the tonsillar parenchyma by the mycelium (tonsillomycosis). Any of deep mycoses may involve one or both

tonsils, histoplasmosis and rhinosporidiosis being perhaps likelier than others to be found in the these sites. Rhinosporidiosis of the tonsils may cause polypoid superficial lesions or a more uniform enlargement of the affected part; the characteristic sporangia are conspicuous in histologic sections (Friedmann, 1986).

Failure to achieve bactericidal level of the antibiotic inside the tonsil results in bacterial survival. It is possible that the fibrous capsule, formed at the tonsillar bed after repeated infections, serves as a barrier to antibiotic penetration, and only about ½ cm of tissue can be reached by the cryosurgical unit. So, pathogenic bacteria in deep foci within the tonsil are not affected by this method and the best treatment for these patients is by surgical extirpation (Rosen, et al. 1977).

All tonsils excised ought to be submitted for histopathological investigation with modern methods employed in the study of lymphoreticular tissue in health and disease. Now that wholesale tonsillectomies are no longer performed no department of histopathology would be inundated by "normal" tonsils (Friedmann, 1986).