Medical Errors-Part Two
Cerumen Management

2015

Instructor: Alan L. Lowell BC-HIS, ACA
Dr. Luis M. Valdes, BC-HIS*

Format: Power Point / Lecture Style-Classroom/ Practical-Laboratory (optional)

Equipment: LCD Projector, Screen, Lavaliere Microphone

Materials: Power Point slide type printed materials / Handouts (optional)

CEU’s: Eight (4-6) CEU’s

Approval: IIHIS

Disclaimer: The ALS Cerumen Management seminar is for informational purposes only and in no way encourages professionals to attempt cerumen management without acquiring the appropriate skill, knowledge, instruments and equipment. Additionally, to perform cerumen management, it must be done pursuant to and in compliance with state or provincial statutes and administrative rules governing the licensed practice of Hearing Healthcare Professionals. Cerumen management should not be attempted unless appropriate professional liability insurance has been obtained and is current. Safe practice requires that a licensed physician in your geographical area preferably with a specialty in Otolaryngology be available.

Luis M. Valdes does not have an active, valid license in the United States to practice medicine nor is his Medical Degree recognized in the United States. Please see his biography in the following paragraphs.

Description: Cerumen Management-Ear Wax Removal is presented as a four to six hour seminar offered live on-site or on DVD (approximately 6 hours). Cerumen Management on DVD includes power point slides which follow the first several hours of the presentation and is available to those whom attend a live on-site seminar for a nominal fee.

Cerumen Management-Ear Wax Removal is presented in two parts. The first part contains a breakdown and thorough explanation of the outer ear structures including anatomy, disorders, the innervation system, histology and disorders of the outer ear. Part two includes a step-by-step description relative to patient interrogatory, ear wax and the five basic methods utilized in the removal of ear wax which include the Q-tip, Curette, Forceps, Lavage-Irrigation-Flush and Vacuum / Suction methods.

Approximately 68 removal procedures were recorded over a seven month period narrating and demonstrating varying levels of difficulty in the five removal methods.
Depending on the amount of professionals attending a live on-site presentation, a practical, hands-on laboratory component may be available.

**Presenters**

*Dr. Luis M. Valdes, BC-HIS* is a board certified Hearing Aid Specialist. Luis M. Valdes received his Board Certification from The National Board for Certification in the Hearing Instrument Sciences (NBC-HIS) in 1998. He currently practices as a licensed Hearing Aid Specialist in Naples, Florida.

Prior to relocating to Florida from Cuba, Luis Valdes practiced medicine as an otorhynolaryngologist. He did his surgical residency in Pinar del Rio, Cuba. He attended the University Of Havana Superior Institute Of Medical Science where he received his Medical Degree in 1990. Luis Valdes does not practice medicine in the United States nor is his medical degree recognized in the United States.

Alan L. Lowell, BC-HIS, ACA is a board certified Hearing Instrument Specialist and Audioprosthologist. He has been practicing for more than 33 years and completed his educational course work in 1993 from the American Conference of Audioprosthology. He has published numerous educational programs distributed world wide by Alan Lowell Seminars, Inc, co-authored a chapter in a text book on Comprehensive Audiometric Hearing Assessment published by the International Institute in the Hearing Instrument Sciences. Additionally, Lowell has written several articles in industry publications over the years including an article on Tinnitus and Vestibular Disorders.

**Outcomes:** Attendees should develop a deep, thorough understanding of the outer ear structures and the limitations that cerumen management presents in each of its anatomical parts. Viewing the various procedures included in the presentation should instill a higher level of confidence for the simplest less complicated removal procedures to the more difficult and challenging. For beginners, it is recommended that the Q-tip method on the simplest and less complicated cases be utilized before advancing to the other methods.

**Seminar Content Areas:**

Justification for Cerumen Management in the Hearing Aid Dispensing Practice

Case History & Patient Interrogatory

Anatomy of the Outer-Ear structures

Innervation System

Histology of the Outer-Ear
Cerumen

Q-tip Method

Curette Method

Forceps Method

Lavage / Irrigation / Flushing Method

Suction / Vacuum Method