**Simultaneous Labyrinthectomy and Cochlear Implantation in Patients with Unilateral Ménière’s Disease**

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Active Meniere´s disease may be debilitating due to vertigo spells, fluctuating vestibular function with unsteadiness, hearing loss, and tinnitus. The patients suffering unilateral Meniere´s disease may present with normal hearing or with sensorineural hearing loss in the non-affected ear. In the latter case hearing can be very poor. Bilateral cases of Meniere´s disease may be more challenging. Medical management and intratympanic therapies allow us to cure with efficacy most of the cases; conservative surgical therapy, such as endolymphatic sac surgery, surgical vestibular ablation with gentamicine, or vestibular neurectomy, permit a better control of vertigo but may fail to improve hearing function and disequilibrium. In selected cases with poor hearing, a single surgery with simultaneous labyrinthectomy and cochlear implantation may provide a cure of the main Meniere´s symptoms and hearing rehabilitation of the same ear.

OBJECTIVE: To evaluate the efficacy of the procedure on the control of Meniere's disease symptoms and provide hearing rehabilitation in five patients.

METHODS: In the period 2013–2016, five patients with Meniere's disease were selected for simultaneous labyrinthectomy and cochlear implantation. The reason was incapacitating vertigo or disequilibrium not responsive to previous medical and surgical treatments, ranging from intratympanic gentamicine to endolymphatic sac surgery, with unaidable hearing in the same ear.

RESULTS: All the patients experienced a complete control of the vertigo attacks and a better equilibrium. One elderly female patient suffering frequent falls got a great improvement. The hearing of all patients was better for all patients for two main reasons: the absence of any disturbance from the implanted ear in noisy environments and the gain in hearing provided by the implant that depends on the contralateral side function.