

## Summary of Otitis Media

### Causes:

- Mixed bacterial infections (secondary to otitis externa)
- Haematogenous bacterial infections (rare)
- Fungal infections
- Severe head trauma with a secondary inflammatory response
- Neoplasia
- Breed predisposition: Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
- Mucopolysaccharidosis

### Clinical Signs:

- Head shaking
- Rubbing or scratching the affected ear
- Tilting or rotating the head toward the affected side
- Self trauma can lead to aural haematoma
- May also exhibit:
  - Facial nerve paralysis (ear droop, lip droop, ptosis, collapse of the nostril)
  - Horner syndrome (miosis, ptosis, enophthalmos, protrusion of the nictitating membrane)

### Diagnosis:

- Otosopic examination of ear – bulging of the tympanic membrane due to effusive fluid accumulation
- Soft tissue density seen within the bulla on radiographic or CT/MRI examination

### Treatment:

- Aggressive and prolonged antimicrobial therapy (clindamycin, enrofloxacin)

