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# Ear Molding for Congenital Auricular Deformities: Efficacy and Factors Affecting Outcomes

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## Abstract

**Objective:** This study's aim was to assess the effectiveness of ear molding for congenital auricular deformities, analyze the factors affecting prognosis, and provide more clinical data supporting nonsurgical correction for this condition. **Methods:** A prospective study of a consecutive series of infants treated with ear molding from January 2021 to December 2022 in the department of otolaryngology, Second Affiliated Hospital of Harbin Medical University, was conducted. Demographic and clinical information were collected, and photographs of the ear were taken before and after treatment. Treatment efficacy and the relevant influencing factors were evaluated. **Results:** Thirty-five patients, including 59 with congenital ear anomalies, underwent noninvasive ear molding. The deformity type, treatment initiation age, and number of treatment cycles affected treatment efficacy. Earlier treatment initiation was associated with a shorter treatment period. Treatments were started earlier if decision-makers were more anxious. **Conclusion:** The earlier the neonatal auricle deformity is treated, the shorter the treatment time and the more ideal the clinical effect will be. Early noninvasive treatment for microtia is valuable. Early detection and parental awareness and education can help children receive treatment earlier and improve the success rate.

**Keywords:** congenital auricular deformity; ear molding; nonsurgical correction.

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## Conflict of interest statement

Declaration of Conflicting InterestsThe author(s) declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

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