

Perilymphatic fistula (Labyrinthine fistula)

- Pathologic communication between the fluid-filled space of the inner ear and air filled middle ear.
- Most commonly occurring at the round or oval window

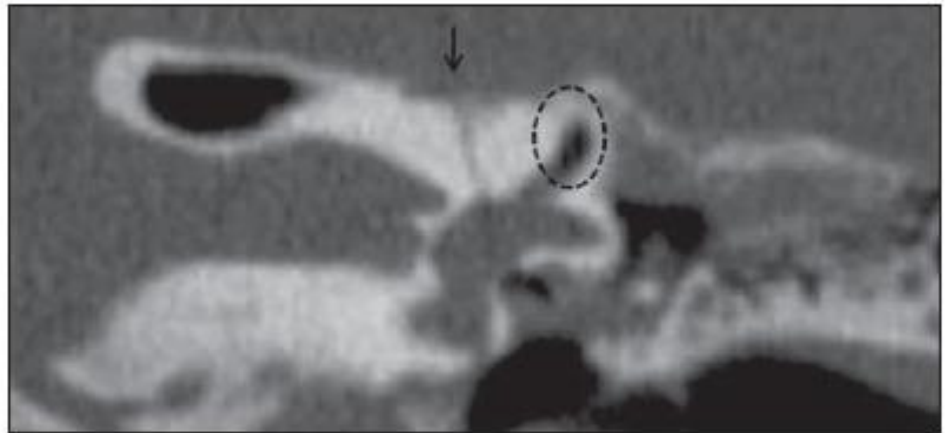


Figure 9. Labyrinthine fractures. Coronal computed tomography reveals trans-labyrinthine transverse fracture (arrow) Pneumolabyrinth (circle) and fluid inside the middle ear (perilymphatic fistula) are highlighted.

Perilymphatic fistula

- Important cause of SNHL
- Characteristically fluctuating SNHL
- (possibly with vertigo/tinnitus)
- Increased risk for meningitis
- Congenital
 - – A/w congenital deformity of inner ear structures
 - – Otitis Media often occurs->meningitis, labyrinthitis
 - – Worsen with trauma (including barotrauma)
- Acquired
 - Trauma, neoplasm, infection

