Pertussis: three years for oversight at H-ussein-Dey University Hospital, Algiers.

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Objective

To determine the frequency of pertussis cases; to describe the clinical and biological aspects in suspected pertussis children hospitalized at the CHU Hussein Dey, Algiers.

Material/Methods

From January 1st 2015 to 31 december 2017, nasopharyngeal samples were received at the central laboratory of CHU Hussein-Dey. They were collected from children hospitalized in paediatric ward and suspected for pertussis.

The biological and clinical signs as well as the evolution were collected by retrospective study of the patient's files.

The diagnosis was carried out by real-time PCR method using the *Bordetella Rgene* amplification kit (Argene-Biomerieux®) which targets the IS481 sequence specific to *Bordetella pertussis*

Results

The patients showed a suggestive symptom of pertussis: a cough in 97.3% of cases, cyanosis in 95.4%, respiratory distress syndrome (CSD) in 62.7% and vomiting in 6, 3% of cases.

The biological signs accompanying the clinic are: hyperlymphocytosis in 59% and positive CRP in 43.6% of cases.

After administration of macrolides, clinical improvement was observed in 91.3% of cases with an average hospital stay of 5 days

A worsening of the clinical condition with accentuation of cyanosis was observed in one patient, the improvement was observed only after 10 days of hospitalization

One patient died as a result of malignant pertussis, accompanied by a respiratory distress and neurological disorders

conclusion

Clinical signs are not specific, they only guide the diagnosis. The evolution of the disease is generally favourable under treatment but there are cases of malignant pertussis that can be fatal. Pertussis still exists in children not yet or incompletely immunized.