CHARACTERISTICS OF ALLERGIC REACTIONS TO DRUGS IN CHILDREN

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Background and Aims

Drug allergy may produce a rash and other unwanted symptoms and signs.

Method

A retrospective analysis of medical records of 76 patients aged 3-17 years admitted to a children's hospital in 2015-2017 in connection with acute hypersensitivity reactions to drugs was carried out.

Results

The average age of patients was 7.6 years [7.0-8.2]: 34 boys, 42 girls. In 5/76 (6.8%) patients reported cases of anaphylaxis (3 on topical anesthetics at dental interventions, 1 on the administration of an antirabic immunoglobulin, 1 on intramuscular injection of cephalosporins). Angioedema developed in a 6-year-old girl after oral administration of NSAIDs for headache relief. Toxic-epidermal necrolysis was diagnosed in a 5-year-old girl after using the multivitamins. In 69/76 (90.8%) patients there were various rashes - urticaria, spotted-papular and morbilliform exanthema. Thus, in most children, cutaneous manifestations of hypersensitivity prevailed. Hypersensitive reactions to drugs of the type of acute urticaria are diagnosed in 21/76 (27.6%). In 17/76 (22.4%) children there was a combined development of urticaria rash and angioedema. Thus, all clinical manifestations of acute urticaria occurred in 38/76 (50%) patients. Skin rash variants, including spotted-papular and morbilliform exanthema, which were quite resistant to therapy, in some cases prone to pigmentation, occurred in 31/76 (40.8%) patients, while 19 of them marked by a combination of such rashes and symptoms Quincke's oedema. In total, angioedema combined with cutaneous manifestations of hypersensitivity occurred in 36/76 (47.4%) patients hospitalized for drug hypersensitivity reactions.

Conclusion

The most common clinical manifestations of side effects on medicines in children are urticaria and morbilliform exanthema.

Table 1

Clinical characteristics of patients	The data are presented as absolute value / group fraction (%)
Number of patients	71
Age	7.52±0.95 [6.57; 8.47]
Age (month)	95.02±11.53 [83.49; 106.56]
Boys	33
Girls	38
Prescribed therapy: Glucocorticosteroids dose (mg/kg per day)	2.57 ± 0.61 [1.95; 3.19]
Clinical syndromes:	
Urticaria	23/32.39
Urticaria + Quincke's edema	11/15.49
Quincke's edema	3/4.23
Other skin rashes	11/15.49
Other skin rashes + Quincke's edema	16/22.54
Serum sickness	1/1.41
Anaphylaxis	6/8.45

References

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