



ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS, INCLUDING SJS, TEN

ADVERSE CUTANEOUS DRUG REACTIONS IN CHILDREN: A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY IN A TERTIARY HOSPITAL

Sofia Lopes⁽¹⁾ - Mariana Esteves⁽¹⁾ - Bonito Vitor⁽²⁾ - Filomena Azevedo⁽¹⁾ - Alberto Mota⁽¹⁾

Centro Hospitalar Universitário São João Epe, Dermatology, Porto, Portugal⁽¹⁾ - Centro Hospitalar Universitário São João Epe, Pediatrics, Porto, Portugal⁽²⁾

Background: Cutaneous adverse drug reaction (CADR) is considered an undesirable skin manifestation related to the administration of a particular drug, which represents about 35% of the adverse reactions in children.

Objective: This study aims to characterize a paediatric population with a diagnosis of CADR occurring in children admitted in a tertiary hospital.

Materials and Methods: We conducted a retrospective study in order to characterize a population with a diagnosis of CADR in children admitted in a tertiary hospital during 6 years.

Results: A total of 90 children were included in our study; 43 (47.8%) were female. Eighteen (20%) patients were previously healthy, 28.0% had a history of infectious disease and 25.6% of a neurological disease. Vancomycin was the most frequent culprit drug (18.9%) followed by other antimicrobial agents. Maculopapular rash was observed in 75 children, being the most frequent pattern of skin reaction detected. There were three severe drug reactions: acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP), drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS) syndrome and erythema multiforme major (EMM). The selected treatment for cutaneous drug reaction was chosen according to the severity and duration of the rash, ranging from withdrawal of the culprit drug (32.2%) to additional topical or systemic pharmacological agents.

Conclusions: A careful clinical history, including details on recent drugs, helps to distinguish rashes related to other entities, especially since viral exanthemas are frequent in this age group. CADR is a potentially life-threatening reaction. Therefore, an early recognition of its clinical signs is critical to timely interrupt the involved drug and provide adequate supportive care. Since there are few previous investigations on this issue, this study wants to bring more information on CADR in children and to alert to a particularly vulnerable group for this kind of skin reaction.

