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Clinical Patterns of Lower Respiratory Tract Infection and their Prescription Pattern Analysis of Pediatrics Patients in a Tertiary Care Hospital

Arul Prakasam K C^{*1}, Senthilkumar N¹, senthilkumar B¹, Velsreeya R².

¹ Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice JKKMMRF's Annai JKK Sampoorani Ammal College of Pharmacy, Komarapalayam, Tamil Nadu, India.

2. Pharm D Intent, Department of Pharmacy Practice, JKKMMRF's Annai JKK Sampoorani Ammal College of Pharmacy, Komarapalayam, Tamil Nadu, India

*Address for Correspondence:

Dr. Arul Prakasam K C, M. Pharm, Ph. D, Professor and Head of the Department, Department of Pharmacy Practice, JKKMMRF's Annai JKK Sampoorani Ammal College of Pharmacy, Komarapalayam, Tamil Nadu- 638 183

Email Id: serviceheb@gmail.com

Abstract:

Background: Lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI) is infection below the level of the larynx and may be taken to include bronchiolitis, bronchitis and pneumonia. The presentation of these conditions will depend on age, infecting organism and site of infection. LTRI is the largest cause of morbidity among children under five across the world. The use of antimicrobial agents has become a routine practice for the treatment of pediatric illnesses, and antibiotics are among the most commonly prescribed drugs in pediatrics. Rational use of antibiotic is very necessary to avoid resistance.

Purpose of study: The aim of the study to analyse the prescription pattern used in pediatric patients with lower respiratory tract infections. **Methods:** Data collected will subjected to descriptive statistical analysis using Microsoft Excel and GraphPad InStat. Results will be in numbers and percentages. Demographic characteristics and number of drugs and number of antibiotics per patient per prescription will be express in mean \pm standard deviation (SD) with respect to the previous similar studies. **Results:** In this study we found that Amoxicillin + Clavulanic acid (31.32%) followed by azithromycin (25.99%) and ampicillin (15.55%) were the most frequently prescribed antibiotics.

Conclusion: It was observed that prescription from NLEM was 3.35 drugs, suggesting rational approach in giving the treatment, but prescription by generic name was not there which needs the improvement. There is a need of educational programmes in order to bring rational use of antibiotics that requires development of standard guidelines for antibiotic prescription. It is also needed to create awareness in parents regarding the risk-benefit of antibiotics or other drugs for the self-limiting condition. This study will help the clinicians to know about pattern of antibiotics used and types of LRTI in pediatric patient.

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