

FREQUENCY OF DETECTION OF BLEPHARITIS AMONG CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH TUBERCULOSIS

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Introduction

Blepharitis - one of the most common ophthalmological diseases. It manifests itself as inflammation of the eyelids. Inflammation of the marginal areas of the eyelids in most cases is a chronic disease that is quite difficult to treat. The persistent recurrent course of blepharitis contributes to the development of conjunctivitis, keratitis and weakened vision in children with tuberculosis.

Purpose of the study. To study the frequency of detection of blepharitis in children and adolescents with tuberculosis.

Materials and methods. Experiment was conducted of children and adolescents with tuberculosis aged from 1 year to 17 years who were being treated for tuberculosis at the Andijan regional anti-tuberculosis dispensary.

A comprehensive ophthalmological examination included: determination of visual acuity without and with correction, skiascopy, autorefractometry, biomicroscopy, study of binocular functions, direct and reverse ophthalmoscopy.

Clinical, biochemical, immunological, microbiological studies and examination by specialists were also carried out.

Results and discussion:

During the examination, blepharitis was identified in 435 children and adolescents with tuberculosis, which is $25.7 \pm 1.1\%$ of the total number of those examined.

With increasing age, there was an increase in the detection rates of blepharitis, and with each age group the increase was more significant. In the age group of 1-3 years, the detection rate of blepharitis was $5.1 \pm 2.5\%$, and in the age group of 4-6 years, the detection rate was already $7.8 \pm 1.6\%$. In the age group 7-9 years, the detection rate was $17.1 \pm 1.7\%$. In age groups from 1-3 years to 4-6 years, the overall rates of detection of blepharitis increased by only 52.9%, while by the age of 7-9 years the rates increased by 119.2%, i.e. more than 2 times.

Further, by 10-14 years, the overall detection rates were $41.9 \pm 2.1\%$, an increase of 145.0% compared to the previous age group. However, in the next age interval - from 10-14 to 15-17 years, there is a decrease in overall indicators by 19.6% and amounts to $33.7 \pm 2.9\%$.

An analysis of the incidence rates of blepharitis in the studied group of patients, taking into account gender, showed that in different age groups the ratio of rates between boys and girls

was different, with a predominance of rates in boys, but the differences were statistically insignificant ($P>0.05$). The overall incidence rates of blepharitis in boys were also statistically insignificantly higher than in girls and amounted to $27.1\pm1.4\%$ and $23.8\pm1.6\%$, respectively ($P>0.05$).

A comparative analysis of age-specific indicators allowed us to conclude that the dynamics of both increase and decrease in indicators in the groups of boys was less significant compared to the groups of girls, but the differences were statistically insignificant ($P>0.05$).

The highest frequency of detection of the disease was established at the age of 10-14 years in both boys ($47.8\pm2.9\%$) and girls (35.4 ± 3.0). Girls are statistically significantly lower than boys ($P<0.05$).

Conclusion

From the above, we can conclude that among children and adolescents suffering from tuberculosis, the most significant risk of blepharitis is in the age groups 10-14 ($RR=1.286$, 95% CI 0.978-1.690) and 15-17 years ($RR=1.282$, 95 %CI 0.975-1.686) compared with other age groups.