

POSTER PRESENTATION

Open Access

Epidemiology and clinical characteristics of severe non-polio enteroviruses infections: the pediatric experience of the National Institute for Infectious Diseases “Prof. Dr. Matei Balș”, a 5 year survey

Monica Luminos^{1,2*}, Gheorghita Jugulete^{1,2}, Angelica Vișan^{1,2}, Magda Vasile¹, Anuța Bilașco¹, Anca Drăgănescu¹, Sabina Șchiopu¹, Cornelia Dogaru¹, Mădălina Maria Merișescu^{1,2}, Cristina Negulescu¹, Osman Endis¹

From The 9th Edition of the Scientific Days of the National Institute for Infectious Diseases Prof Dr Matei Bals Bucharest, Romania. 23-25 October 2013

Background

Currently, an increase in the enteroviruses associated diseases is reported in many countries of the world. Understanding the trend of severe non-polio enteroviruses infections, in the pediatric population, becomes an important public health issue.

Methods

We analyzed the clinical manifestations of patients aged 1 month to 14 years, with serology-confirmed non-polio enteroviral infections, who were hospitalized for at least 4 days in the National Institute for Infectious Diseases “Prof. Dr. Matei Balș”, between January 2009 and September 2013.

Results

There were 63 laboratory-confirmed enteroviruses severe infections during this period. In our cohort 67% of the patients were males and the median age was 4.2 ± 2.2 years of age. The average days from onset to deterioration were 4.3 days (range 1–10 days). Interestingly, more than half did not have oral ulcers, and/or characteristic skin rashes, thus making earlier diagnosis more difficult. The vast majority (92% of the patients) associated gastrointestinal manifestations.

A total of 23 patients were diagnosed with severe non-polio enterovirus aseptic meningitis, with the highest prevalence of the cases in the summer of 2012, when

18 children developed acute flaccid paralysis, 13 manifested non-specific febrile skin rashes and 9 presented with viral hepatitis.

The average time of hospitalization was 6.4 days (range 4–31 days) and all patients required interdisciplinary consultations, 12 required kineto-therapy after discharge but neither one of our patients had a fatal outcome.

Conclusion

Even in the absence of typical oral ulcers, skin rashes and/or gastrointestinal symptoms, clinicians should be alert about any flaccid paralysis episode and other neurological signs.

Authors' details

¹National Institute for Infectious Diseases “Prof. Dr. Matei Balș”, Bucharest, Romania. ²Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania.

Published: 16 December 2013

doi:10.1186/1471-2334-13-S1-P102

Cite this article as: Luminos et al.: Epidemiology and clinical characteristics of severe non-polio enteroviruses infections: the pediatric experience of the National Institute for Infectious Diseases “Prof. Dr. Matei Balș”, a 5 year survey. *BMC Infectious Diseases* 2013 **13**(Suppl 1):P102.

* Correspondence: drluminos@mateibals.ro

¹National Institute for Infectious Diseases “Prof. Dr. Matei Balș”, Bucharest, Romania

Full list of author information is available at the end of the article