

INTESTINAL INFECTIONS IN CHILDHOOD: APPROACHES TO PHARMACOTHERAPY OF VIRAL DIARRHEA

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Rotavirus infection is a form of acute intestinal infection, which is determined by the rotavirus (genus Rotavirus, family Reoviridae). Come down with rotavirus infection is possible at any age, but most common this disease is among children. The virus is transmitted by the fecal-oral route. It infects and damages the cells that line the small intestine and causes gastroenteritis (which is often called “stomach flu” despite having no relation to influenza). Consequence of diarrhea is dehydration, which is linked with the main risk of the disease. Disease with adequate therapy usually ends after 4-7 days with full recovery.

To investigate current approaches to the treatment of viral diarrhea in childhood 257 hospitals sheet charts of patients aged from birth to 9 years of Vinnytsia, Chernihiv, Mykolaiv and Zhytomyr regions were estimated. Analysis by gender had showed that nearly 60% of patients are boys, so morbidity of viral diarrhea is slightly higher among boys. Exploring the age structure of patients led to the conclusion, that the highest level of disease is among children from 7 to 24 months - more than 50% of the sample (132 persons).

Analysis of prescriptions to patients with viral diarrhea (enteritis) had showed that the most widespread medications in regimens are antimicrobial remedies used for the treatment of intestinal infections (proportion of prescriptions 11.7%) and antimicrobial agents for systemic use, which largely consists of cephalosporin antibiotics (proportion of prescriptions 5,1%) and aminoglycosides (0,80%) (ATC groups A07AX, J01DD, J01GB). Mostly, illness is accompanied by fever, so significant part in therapy take antipyretics (ATC groups M01AE, N02BE) – 3,91%. Major role in improvement of condition of the patient plays restoring water and salt balance, that's why in every case of the disease leading method to combat dehydration is rehydration. In some cases, instead of infusional therapy which is less physiological for children, comparing with oral agents, are used saline solutions for oral rehydration (ATC group A07CA), proportion of prescriptions is 4,70%.

The real structure of children with viral diarrhea by gender and age has been investigated. Also prescriptions for treatment of the disease by pharmacotherapeutical groups have been analyzed.

The obtained results may be used in further studies to optimize pharmaceutical providing children with a diagnosis of “viral diarrhea.”