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Changes in Health Related Quality of Life (HRQL) after Spinal Fusion and Scoliosis Correction in Patients with Cerebral Palsy
Christina Bohtz\textsuperscript{1,2}, Andreas Meyer-Heim\textsuperscript{1}, Kan Min\textsuperscript{1}
\textsuperscript{1}Rehabilitationszentrum für Kinder und Jugendliche des Kinderspitals Zürich, \textsuperscript{2}Universitätssklinik Balgrist, Zürich

Background: There is little literature on the impact of spinal fusion for scoliosis in patients with cerebral palsy (CP) regarding the health related quality of life (HRQL). The purpose of this study was to evaluate the outcome of spinal fusion and scoliosis correction measured by the subjective change in the HRQL as well as the objective radiological parameters. Various factors that could influence the subjective outcome were examined to investigate their correlation to the results of HRQL.

Methods: A retrospective review of 50 consecutive patients with CP, who had spinal fusion for scoliosis with minimal 2 years of follow-up. Radiographic data were obtained from preoperative, postoperative and last follow-up examinations. The assessment of the HRQL was done using a modified version of the “Caregiver Priorities and Child Health Index of Life with Disabilities” (CPCHILD) questionnaire, assessed by the caregivers of the patients.

Results: A significant improvement (p = 0.001) of HRQL was found between the preoperative and the postoperative status. The satisfaction rate of the patients (respectively their caregivers) with the outcome of the operation was 91.6%. There was average scoliosis correction of 64.3% and pelvic tilt correction of 57.7%. At the last follow-up the average scoliosis angle was 32.0°, pelvic tilt was 8.8°. No significant correlation between the amount of scoliosis angle correction and the subjective change in the HRQL could be established (R² = 0.321, p = 0.078). No correlation was found between the occurrence of complications and changes in the HRQL (p = 0.122) or the satisfaction rate with the outcome of the operation (p = 0.764) was found. Extension of spinal fusion to sacroiliacis has no influence on the occurrence of complications (p = 0.42) or on the changes in HRQL (p = 0.71).

Conclusion: Life quality improves after spinal fusion and scoliosis correction in patients with CP. There is high satisfaction rate of the patients and their caregivers.

Impact of food allergy on the quality of life in Swiss children
J. Wassenberg\textsuperscript{1}, M. Cocheran\textsuperscript{1}, A. DunnGalvin\textsuperscript{1,2}, P.L. Ballalben\textsuperscript{1}, BMJ Fodkstra-de Blok\textsuperscript{1}, M.F. Hofer\textsuperscript{3,4}, P.A. Eigenmann\textsuperscript{3,4}
\textsuperscript{1}Division of Paediatric Allergy, CHUV, Lausanne; \textsuperscript{2}Paediatric Allergology, HUG, Geneva; \textsuperscript{3}Department of Paediatrics, University College, Cork; \textsuperscript{4}Epidemiology, CHUV, Lausanne; \textsuperscript{5}General Practice, University Medical Center Groningen, Groningen

Background: Food allergy in children significantly affects the quality of life. Its impact can be analyzed by the validated French versions of the Food Allergy Quality of Life Questionnaires, parent’s form and children’s form (FAQLQ-PF and FAQLQ-CF).

Objectives: The aim of our study was to evaluate the quality of life in a sample of Swiss children with IgE-mediated food allergy, confirmed...
Diagnosed during the preschool years. In fact, previous studies show that ASD is often not recognized until entry into public school, especially for higher functioning individuals. For these reasons, we introduced the Modified Autism Checklist for Toddlers (M-CHAT) during the annual check-up for 2-year-olds. The aim of this study was to determine the impact of this procedure in the precocity of ASD diagnosis in the southern part of Switzerland.

Methods: We introduced the screening instrument M-CHAT at the annual check-up for 2-year-olds. The M-CHAT is an autism questionnaire for parents consisting of 23 questions about early developmental issues with particular regard to social interaction. Children who were suspected of having ASD were referred to the Paediatric Neurology Unit in Bellinzona, for specific assessment.

Results: Actually 70% of the paediatricians in Ticino used the M-CHAT questionnaire during the annual check-up for 2-year-olds. In 2009, 14 children were further evaluated: 9 showed autistic spectrum disorders (8 M, 1 F); the mean age of the diagnosis was 3.8 years. In 2010, 11 children were still included imaging at acute infection and all had infantile autism (7 M and 3 F). The mean age for ADS diagnosis was 2.9 years.

Conclusion: After the introduction of the M-CHAT during the annual check-up for 2-year-olds, we observed an increased number of children that underwent assessment for suspicion of ASD in our department comparing the previous years. In fact, we are not far from the incidence detected at the world-wide level (0.8%). Importantly in 2010, we were able to diagnose ASD at a mean age lower than 3 years. This approach shows the importance of paediatricians in the early detection of ASD. Paediatricians should already begin to recognize children with ASD at preschool age in order to begin therapy as soon as possible. Early diagnosis and intervention may have a decisive impact on a child’s development and subsequently on integration into kindergarten and public schools.

**Abdominal ultrasound in the first three days of febrile urinary tract infection has no direct impact on its treatment**

P. Hasters1, G. Nobile1, G. Staubli2, C. Kellenberger2, D. Nadal1, C. Berger1
1Divisions of Infectious Diseases; 2Emergency Medicine and 3Radiology, University Children’s Hospital Zürich

Background: Current practice of management of febrile urinary tract infection (UTI) in children is not based on evidence. The aim of this study was to describe patient characteristics in all screening-positive individuals.

Methods and results: From January 2009 to January 2011 all Swiss Paediatric Cardiologists were asked to fill out a standardized questionnaire for each patient they have seen for an assessment after a screening – positive test result. A total number of 48 questionnaires were returned. There were 27/48 (56%) neonates with a structural heart defect (true positive POX screening test results) including 16 neonates with potentially critical heart defects: Hypoplastic left heart syndrome (n = 1), d – transposition of the great arteries (n = 7), total anomalous pulmonary venous drainage (n = 4) and coarctation of the aorta (n = 4). In 21/48 (44%) of the patients, intracardiac anatomy was normal (false positive POX screening test results). The low saturation was explained in 10/21 patients with normal intracardiac anatomy by evidence of pulmonary hypertension on echocardiography and a right to left shunt through patent foramen ovale or arterial duct. Due to the study design with voluntary return of the questionnaire, this analysis is limited by an underreporting and the true number of patients detected with POX screening in Switzerland may even be higher.

Conclusion: The current practice of POX screening in Switzerland yields a timely diagnosis of potentially critical heart defects in 21 patients within the last 2 years. This is further evidence for the benefit of the POX screening and encourages us to continue with POX screening in all Swiss birth clinics.

**Early diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders with the use of the M-CHAT: Results from canton Ticino**

Gian Paolo Ramelli and Associazione dei Pediatri della Svizzera Italiana (APSII)

Pediatric Neurology, Regional Hospital, Bellinzona, Switzerland

Introduction: Although early diagnosis and treatment of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) are considered crucial for improving the level of functioning and quality of life, ASD is not always accurately diagnosed during the preschool years. In fact, previous studies show that ASD is often not recognized until entry into public school, especially for higher functioning individuals. For these reasons, we introduced the Modified Autism Checklist for Toddlers (M-CHAT) during the annual check-up for 2-year-olds. The aim of this study was to determine the impact of this procedure in the precocity of ASD diagnosis in the southern part of Switzerland.

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Conclusion: After the introduction of the M-CHAT during the annual check-up for 2-year-olds, we observed an increased number of children that underwent assessment for suspicion of ASD in our department comparing the previous years. In fact, we are not far from the incidence detected at the world-wide level (0.8%). Importantly in 2010, we were able to diagnose ASD at a mean age lower than 3 years. This approach shows the importance of paediatricians in the early detection of ASD. Paediatricians should already begin to recognize children with ASD at preschool age in order to begin therapy as soon as possible. Early diagnosis and intervention may have a decisive impact on a child’s development and subsequently on integration into kindergarten and public schools.

**Iron-deficiency among children 6–12 months: is an immigrant more at risk?**

M.E. Verga1, V. Widmeier2, M. Beck-Popovic3, J.D. Krähenbühl1, J.Y. Pauchard1, M. Gehri1
1CHUV – site hôpital de l’Enfance, Lausanne; 2Pédiate installe, Neuchâtel; 3Pédiate installe, Mont-sur-Lausanne

Introduction: Iron-deficiency with or without anaemia is the most common deficiency in the world. Its prevalence is increased in developing countries and in low socio-economic populations. The aims of the study were to determine prevalence of iron-deficiency among Swiss and immigrant infants and identified risks factors.
Usefulness of biomarkers to restrict antibiotic treatment in children with lower respiratory tract infections

G. Baer², P. Baumann¹, M. Buettcher¹, G. Berthel¹, U. Heininger¹, J. Bonhoeffer¹, for the proPAED study group²
¹Univ. Children’s Hosp. Basel, Basel, Switzerland
²Kantonsspital Aarau, Aarau, Switzerland

Background: The usefulness of chest x-rays (CXR) to guide treatment of lower respiratory tract infections (LRTI) is controversial. We investigated the diagnostic value of CXR in children with LRTI compared to clinical assessment. This was a subanalysis of the ProPAED study investigating whether PCT guided AB treatment of children with LRTI reduces AB exposure.

Methods: The ProPAED study investigated previously healthy children, 1 mo to 18 yrs, presenting with LRTI to emergency units of two pediatric tertiary care hospitals in Switzerland between 01/2009 and 02/2010, randomized to AB treatment according to either internationally recognized guidelines or PCT guided treatment and category of assessment.

Results: CRP (cut-off 40 mg/dl) showed a sensitivity of 81% (CI 95 67-96) and a negative predictive value of 88% (CI 95 77.3–97.7) to rule out non-favorable outcome of children with LRTI without AB. The combination of low PCT and CRP values may predict favorable outcome better than PCT alone. CRP values were significantly higher in children with LRTI. Larger prospective intervention studies with higher PCT cut offs are needed to further crystalize outcome driven paediatric cut offs for biomarker guided AB of LRTI in children.

Conclusion: We conclude that prevalence of iron-deficiency in immigrant population is higher than in non-immigrant. Immigrant's children and 17 (9.3%) in immigrant's children. A significant difference was noticed between groups for iron-deficiency at 12 months (p = 0.005). Logistic regression identified immigration in the last 5 years, low income or unemployment, breastfeeding after 6 months, early cow's milk introduction (before 9 months) and baby cereals after 4 months as risks factors for iron-deficiency.

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Methods: In an on-going clinical cohort study, data from 03/2009 and 12/2010 from 22 active out of 27 certified Swiss programmes were analysed. Programmes including children and parents were standardised according to paediatric guidelines to guarantee the reimbursement by health insurances. Co-morbidity, family origin, body mass index standard deviation score (BMI-SDS), waist circumference, blood pressure (BP) and metabolic markers were assessed at T0 and T2 (means ± SD).

Results: 1292 overweight children were registered for therapy. After motivational analysis, 23% of them did not pursue admission procedure. After psychological and medical evaluation, 529 children started group therapy (14%). Group size was 11.6 ± 3.5 children and scantly cost-effective. At baseline, 342 children were assessed so far: age 12.2 ± 2.2 years, 53% female, 45% migrants, BMI-SDS 2.7 ± 0.6 and waist/height ratio 0.59 ± 0.7. Overweight appeared at 6.1 ± 3.7 years; physical, psychological, social problems had been individually started before T0 in 3, 11 or 15% of cases, resp. Children were extremely obese in 59%, obese (BMI >P97 and ≥P95) in 34% and overweight in 7% of cases. The prevalence of co-morbidities was high: 75% of orthopaedic disorders, 21% of asthma, 29% of attention deficit, 16% of hypertension and 7% of sleep apnoea. Moreover, 68% of mothers and 77% of fathers were overweight or obese. At T2, weight gain in fathers was significant. Longitudinal data of 113 children were analysed (dropout rate 8.1%) showing significant reductions in BMI-SDS (−0.19 SD ± 0.36, p <.001), waist/height ratio, systolic BP and fasting glucose. Follow-up of elevated levels of glucose or ALAT (at T0: 14 and 26% increased, resp.) was done by the physician in less than 50% at T2.

Conclusion: Standardised multiprofessional group therapy significantly improves adiposity and health of obese children, though demands on health care professionals and families are high. The local availability of programmes remains insufficient and the group setting, time and effort required are far above the resources of most families with obese children. Nevertheless, the individual medical care for obese children must be improved by diagnosing and treating co-morbidity early and adequately.

Usefulness of chest x-rays in guiding treatment of children with lower respiratory tract infections

G. Baer², P. Baumann¹, M. Buettcher¹, G. Berthel¹, U. Heininger¹, J. Bonhoeffer¹, for the proPAED study group²
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High serum leptin and soluble cellular adhesion molecules levels are associated with impaired endothelial function in pre-pubertal obese children

N.J. Farpour-Lambert¹, A.B.R. Maggio¹, Y. Aggoun¹, F. Montecucco¹, G. Pellit¹, F. Marot¹, M. Beggaf¹
¹Pediatric Sports Medicine and Obesity Care Program, Service of Pediatric Specialties, Department of Child and Adolescent; ²Pediatric Cardiology Unit, Service of Pediatric Specialties, Department of Child and Adolescent; ³Pediatric Divison, Foundation for Medical Research; ⁴Cardiology Service, Department of Internal Medicine; University Hospitals of Geneva and University of Geneva.

Background: Soluble inflammatory mediators, such as leptin and cell adhesion molecules (CAMs), have been shown to act as potential biomarkers in cardiovascular diseases. The aim of this study was to assess their levels and determine their associations with arterial vascular function in pre-pubertal obese children.

Methods: Forty-four obese (age 9.3 ± 1.9 y) and 23 non-obese pre-pubertal children (age 9.0 ± 1.6 yrs) were studied. The flow-mediated dilation (FMD) of the brachial artery was assessed by high resolution ultrasonography. Circulating levels of CRP values were assessed by high sensitivity assay and leptin, soluble adhesion molecules, ICAM-1), vascular cell adhesion molecule-1
Effects of group therapy on physical fitness and functional capacities of overweight children and adolescents in Switzerland: the KIDSSTEP study

N.J. Farquhar-Lambert1, X.E. Martin1, E. Kirchhoff1, M. Botter1, A. Zumbrunn2, R. Sempach3, D. Allemand4

1Department of Paediatrics, Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève; 2Fachverein Adipositas im Kindes- und Jugendalter, Zürich; 3Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinic, University of Basel; 4Northwestern Swiss University of Applied Sciences, Olten; 5Ostschweizer Kinderklinik, St. Gallen

Introduction: Obese children spend usually less time in physical activities and have lower cardiorespiratory fitness that their non-obese counterparts. The purpose of this study was to assess changes during family-based group therapy in physical fitness and functional capacities in overweight children and adolescents.

Methods: We present data of 77 girls and 68 boys (mean age 12.2 ± 2.2 years) of the ongoing national multi-centric study of multiprofessional group therapy for childhood obesity, collected between 03/2009 and 12/2010 in 22 certified programs in Switzerland. The therapy includes adapted physical activity sessions 1-2 times per week or once every 2 weeks. The following outcome measures (Eurofit pediatric protocol) were included in the 6-month follow-up post therapy (at 6–9 months): Single Leg Balance Test, Plate Tapping Test (abdominal strength and endurance), Shuttle Run (10 x 5 meter, speed), and Leger Fitness Test (20m-shuttle run, aerobic fitness).

Results: Changes in BMI-SDS were -0.15 ± 0.34 (p <0.001) and –0.29 ± 0.39 (p = 0.001). sP-selectin and hs-CRP compared to non-obese subjects. Obese children with low FMD (<5.5%) had significantly higher leptin and VCA1 levels than subjects with normal FMD. The BMI-SDS (t = 3.4, p = <0.003) and leptin (t = 2.6, p = <0.017) were independent predictors of FMD.

Conclusions: Early endothelial cells activation and pro-inflammatory state appear before puberty in obese children, in association with high leptin levels. Higher leptin levels are significantly associated with lower cardiorespiratory fitness, lower abdominal strength and endurance, as well as reduced body composition (BMI-SDS).

Ped-Chir-O 1

Adherence to perioperative antimicrobial prophylaxis in a children's hospital

C. Ginzanzz, J. Bielecki, U. Subotic, P. Vonbach, C. Berger
Division of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology, Department of Surgery, Hospital Pharmacy, University Children’s Hospital Zürich

Introduction: Perioperative antimicrobial prophylaxis (POAP) is effective in preventing postoperative infections. Institutional guidelines for POAP are a tool to rationalize antimicrobial use in the perioperative setting.

Methods: Application of POAP was investigated among consecutive children undergoing any invasive intervention under anaesthesia at a tertiary paediatric surgical centre during six weeks in 2010. Perioperative documentation was checked for indication, choice, dose and duration of POAP and compared to a local guideline.

Results: 710 children with a median age of 4.6 years (mean 6.0, range 0.01–23 years, 18% <1 month) fulfilled the inclusion criteria. POAP was administered to 225 of 710 (32%) children with the highest rates in cardiothoracic (36/38) procedures, followed by cardiolocom/urologic (26/29), trauma/orthopaedic (73/141) and urologic operations (27/68). Overall, the indication for POAP was appropriate in 215 of 225 prescriptions (96%), however, correctly applied regarding antimicrobial choice, dose and duration in only 41% (89/215). The choice of antimicrobial was as advised in 76% (171/225) with the recommended dose administered in 130 of those 171 patients (76%). POAP was correctly given as a single shot in 30% (51/171) and during 6 to 9 months, combined with family-based group therapy, significantly improves their balance, coordination, abdominal muscle strength and aerobic fitness. These changes are associated with reductions of the degree of adiposity.

Conclusion: Physical fitness and functional capacities are reduced in overweight children and adolescents in Switzerland. Regular exercise training during 6 to 9 months, combined with family-based group therapy, significantly improves their balance, coordination, abdominal muscle strength and aerobic fitness. These changes are associated with reductions of the degree of adiposity.

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Juvenile Dermatomyositis in Western Switzerland
F. Bellutti Enders, M. Hofer
Pediatric rheumatology Romande, DMCR, CHUV, Lausanne and HUG, Genève, Switzerland

Introduction: Juvenile dermatomyositis (JDM) is a rare chronic, autoimmune disease affecting mainly the muscles and skin and which lead to impairment of physical function and endurance. The incidence described in USA is 2.5–4.1 cases per million children. Recent studies describe that two third of the patients followed a chronic disease course, whereas only one third showed monomorphic disease course.

Objectives: Assess disease characteristics and outcome of JDM in Western Switzerland.

Methods: Retrospective pediatric rheumatology chart review in Lausanne and Geneva.

Results: We describe a population of 13 JDM patients followed in western Switzerland from 1997–2010. The incidence of JDM was similar to other studies (3.5 cases per million children). The mean age of onset was 6 years (3–10 years), the mean follow-up 6 years (3 months – 13 years). All patients presented a rash (Gottron’s rash, heliotrope rash or extensor surface rash, in one patient only during follow-up), muscle weakness and evidence of myositis (biopsy, elevated muscle enzymes, magnetic resonance imaging or by electromyography). The median delay of diagnosis was 2 months, 3 patients had a longer delay because of misleading symptoms. Follow up of >1 year is available for 12 patients. In comparison with other studies, evolution was predominantly monomorphic (50% of all cases showed remission within 2 years after diagnosis). All patients were treated by corticosteroids and Methotrexate. If skin manifestation predominated, Hydroxychloroquin was added (40% of all cases).

In the 8 other patients with chronic disease course, multiple treatment changes were required: Ciclosporine, Azathoprin, immunoglobulines, Inflimixab, Adalimumab, Rituximab. Only one patient had pulmonary complications (interstitial pneumonia) and one-patient presented functional impairment. Calcinosis was present in 3 patients (23%). All patients showed at one point improvement of corticosteroid treatment. One patient presented pancreatitis and fungal infection related to treatment. Growth impairment was seen in 3 patients (23%).

Conclusion: In our study we show a better outcome compared to other recent reports. This could be due to early diagnosis and rapid treatment onset or less severe presentation of the disease in our patients. Early referral to a reference center and rapid treatment with corticosteroids combined with Methotrexate may improve the outcome.
When three make one – a triple magnet ingestion case report
Hôpital du Valais – CHCVs – site hospitalier de Sion

Introduction: Young children are known to swallow small objects, usually without danger for their health. On the other hand, magnet ingestion in children, even if it is a rare entity, may cause dangerous gastrointestinal complications. Multiple magnets, if ingested, may attract each other maintaining the intestinal tissue between them, and lead to bowel obstruction or perforation.

Case report: A 2-years-old boy presented a partial bowel obstruction due to consecutive ingestion of 3 magnet pieces on 2 following days. Symptomatology was acute including continuous crying, vomiting, abdominal pain and surgical abdomen on physical examination. After one night observation, the control X-rays did not show any movement of magnetic pieces and a surgical intervention was performed. Hopefully, no bowel necrosis or perforation was found in our patient, no post-operative complication occurs and the child could be discharged after 5 days.

Discussion: Between 2003 and 2006 twenty cases of intestinal perforations and one death due to ingestion of several magnet pieces were reported [1]. A recent literature review described more than 100 cases of magnet ingestion. Our case is particular because of atypical magnet location: one piece in the stomach and two other in transversal colon, attracting each other and causing bowel obstruction. In that situation, double intervention was necessary: laparotomy as well as intraluminal introduction of metallic mandril to proceed to dispatching and removal of gastric magnet.

Conclusion: It is important to make aware parents about the risk of magnet ingestion and remind to physicians that these cases could be easily misdiagnosed without careful history taking. Early intervention is important to avoid complications.

References

PedChir-O 3 Neuroendocrine tumors in children
U. Meuli1, S. Kroiss2, Thomas Schranner3, Felix Niggli4, M. Meuli5
1Department of Surgery, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 2Department of Oncology, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 3Department of Radiology, University Children’s Hospital Zurich

Introduction: Neuroendocrine tumors are extremely rare in children. We report on our series of three different neuroendocrine tumors. Patients: A 13 year old girl had an appendectomy for appendicitis. The histological workup finally revealed the unexpected diagnosis of a benign acinar cell cystadenoma of the pancreas.

Case: A 13 year old girl with severe mental and physical retardation was diagnosed with a 5cm diameter cystic abdominal lesion in 2004. Ultrasound follow-up didn’t show any progression. In 2010 a CT scan showed a cystic lesion of 20x13x7 cm. A mesenteric cyst or retroperitoneal lymphangioma was postulated because of “classical” appearance and relatively common occurrence. As the child suffered of increasing abdominal discomfort and constipation, elective resection of the lesion was performed. Intraoperative findings showed a giant cyst located retroperitoneally. Astonishingly, the tumor extended cranially as far as behind the duodenum, allowing direct view on the intact common bile duct and the pancreatic head after removal of the cyst.

Conclusion: Although pleuropulmonary blastomas type I are extremely rare tumors in newborns, they must be part of the differential diagnosis of congenital cystic lung lesions. Yet, as of today there are no means to reliably recognize this condition clinically or radiologically. The definitive diagnosis is made by histology.

PedChir-O 4 An extremely rare congenital malignant cystic lung tumor in a newborn
S. Rao1, M. Meuli2, R. Caduff2, F. Niggli3, T. Schranner4, U. Mührer5, 1Department of Surgery, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 2Institute of Surgical Pathology, University Hospital Zurich; 3Department of Oncology, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 4Department of Radiology, University Children’s Hospital of Zurich

Introduction: Pleuropulmonary blastoma type I is an extremely uncommon malignant neoplasm in the newborn. We report on a newborn girl with this extremely rare condition.

Case: A babygirl born at 41 4/7 weeks gestational age presented two days after birth with tachypnoea, fever, and rising inflammatory parameters. The chest radiography showed a hypoplastic right middle lobe of the lung. A bronchoscopy was performed in which stenosis of the middle lobar bronchus was diagnosed and a congenital emphysema was suspected. Therefore a scoliosis surgery, an emergency thoracotomy was performed. Intraoperatively, a cystic tumor was enucleated and a partial resection of the upper lobe was performed. The macroscopic aspect was highly suggestive for CCAM. Histopathologic workup finally revealed the unexpected diagnosis of a type I pleuropulmonary blastoma. Complete surgical removal of the upper and middle lobe had to be carried out to achieve a R0 resection.

Conclusion: Although pleuropulmonary blastomas type I are extremely rare tumors in newborns, they must be part of the differential diagnosis of congenital cystic lung lesions. Yet, as of today there are no means to reliably recognize this condition clinically or radiologically. The definitive diagnosis is made by histology.

PedChir-O 5 An extremely rare benign cystic lesion of the pancreas
S. Rao1, U. Mührer1, R. Caduff2, C. Kellenberger1, M. Meuli1, 1Department of Surgery, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 2Institute of Surgical Pathology, University Hospital Zurich; 3Department of Diagnostic Imaging, University Children’s Hospital of Zurich

Introduction: Acinar cell cystadenoma of the pancreas is an extremely rare entity. As for today there have been 12 cases mentioned in literature. We report on a 13 year old girl with this unusual diagnosis.

Case: A 13 year old girl with severe mental and physical retardation was diagnosed with a 5cm diameter cystic abdominal lesion in 2004. Ultrasound follow-up didn’t show any progression. In 2010 a CT scan showed a cystic lesion of 20x13x7 cm. A mesenteric cyst or retroperitoneal lymphangioma was postulated because of “classical” appearance and relatively common occurrence. As the child suffered of increasing abdominal discomfort and constipation, elective resection of the lesion was performed. Intraoperative findings showed a giant cyst located retroperitoneally. Astonishingly, the tumor extended cranially as far as behind the duodenum, allowing direct view on the intact common bile duct and the pancreatic head after removal of the cyst.

Conclusion: Although pleuropulmonary blastomas type I are extremely rare tumors in newborns, they must be part of the differential diagnosis of congenital cystic lung lesions. Yet, as of today there are no means to reliably recognize this condition clinically or radiologically. The definitive diagnosis is made by histology.

PedChir-O 6 Open versus laparoscopic appendectomy in children. Should be considerate the laparoscopy the first choice?
Flurin Hamitaga MD, Mario Mendoza-Sagaon MD, Conrad Muller MD, Rudolf Leuthardt MD, Ospedale Regionale di Bellinzona e Vaili

Introduction: Laparoscopic appendectomy is gaining popularity in comparison with the conventional open approach in the pediatric surgical community. In the last 5 years in our institution we have performed mostly laparoscopic appendectomies in children and rarely
an open approach. We perform the laparoscopic appendectomies in children using a technique with 3 trocars of 5-mm. The purpose of this study is to analyze the trends of laparoscopic versus open appendectomy in our institution and also the results with our laparoscopic technique of appendectomy in children.

Methods: The files of all children operated in our institution from 1999 to May 2010 for appendectomy were analyzed. Two groups of patients were created: Group 1, Open Appendectomy (OA) and Group 2, Laparoscopic Appendectomy (LA). Our pediatric surgery service is relatively young since it was created 11 years ago and the surgical procedures are performed by 2 full-trained pediatric surgeons and 1 senior resident.

Results: 230 patients were included in the study (130 boys and 100 girls). Range of age was between 2 and 16 years old. Between 1999 and 2010, 54 open appendectomies and 34 laparoscopic appendectomies were performed. Between 2005 and May 2010, 8 open appendectomies and 134 laparoscopic appendectomies were performed. Twenty-four children of the LA group had complicated appendicitis with perforation, generalized peritonitis or abscesses. The rate of post-operative complications in both groups were 9,1% (13 cases in the LA and 8 cases in the OA). The rate of post-operative peritoneal abscess was 2.9% in the LA group and 3.2% in the OA group. The rate of post-operative abdominal wall infections was 1.1% in the LA and 3.2% in the OA. There were 2 patients with intestinal occlusion secondary to post-operative adhesions in the LA group, resolved by laparoscopy with an excellent out-come. Conversion rate in the LA group was 5.3% (7 patients).

Conclusion: Our technique of laparoscopic appendectomy is feasible, sure, gives great exposure of the abdominal cavity and allows to replace the 5-mm telescope and the 5-mm instruments according to the necessity of exposure and work, especially in complicated cases of appendicitis. The rate of complications is low and offers good short and long term results. The esthetics is excellent. Moreover, in institutions with pediatric surgeons with good laparoscopic skills the laparoscopic appendectomy should be considered the gold standard to treat children with acute or complicated appendicitis independently of the age.

Fetal Surgery in Zurich: The First Successful Open In Utero Repair of Myelomeningocele

Martin Meulli1, Ueli Moehrlen2, Daniel Jerosch-Herold1, Tobias Kramer2, Martin Vobis2, Erika Lorenz1, Ueli Moehrlen2, Martin Meuli1, Ueli Moehrlen2, Tobias Kramer2, Martin Vobis2, Erika Lorenz1

Background: The recently published MOMS-trial suggested that in utero repair is a novel standard of care for select fetuses with MMC. Case Report: We report on the first European fetal MMC repair performed at the Zurich Center for Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy. Evaluation of the surgical procedures, and post-operative care were performed according to the MOMS-trial. A 37+3 weeks 4G3P was diagnosed with a fetus demonstrating a lumbosacral MMC. The operation was successfully performed at GA 24+5. The postoperative course was uneventful except for leakage induced oligohydramnios and consecutive breech position. C-section was performed at GA 35. During the first 5 weeks there was no need for a VP-shunt and CIC. A bilateral hip dislocation required casts. There was a decreasing renal insufficiency possibly due to hypoplastic kidneys.

Conclusion: Basically, we have successfully adopted the novel treatment option resulting from the MOMS-trial. However, a definitive outcome statement can not be made yet.

Skinsengineering: Engineering and transplantation of large-scale skin analogues in a pig model

S. Bötcher-Haberzeth1, F. Braziulis2, G. Schnief1, T. Biedermann1, F. Hartmann-Fritschi1, L. Pontiggia1, E. Reichmann1, M. Meulli1, C. Bretthauer-Haberzeth1, M. Meuli1, C. Bretthauer-Haberzeth1

Background: Extended full thickness skin defects still represent a considerable therapeutic challenge. As tissue engineering of whole skin seems to be an attractive and ambitious approach, our aim was to engineer autologous porcine grafts and to develop an appropriate large animal transplantation model for pre-clinical studies.

Materials and Methods: Porcine epidermal keratinocytes and dermal fibroblasts were isolated and expanded on culture dishes. Subsequently, hydrogels containing fibroblasts were prepared and keratinocytes seeded on top. The resulting in vitro generated porcine skin substitutes were analysed. For in vivo studies, full-thickness skin defects measuring 7.5 x 7.5 cm were created. Dermal regeneration templates and cultured autologous skin analogues were applied to the wound bed shielded by a silicone chamber. The transplants were covered by a sophisticated dressing and results documented photographically and histologically 3 weeks thereafter.

Conclusion: As for the in vitro study, dermal fibroblasts grown in collagen/ fibrin hydrogels showed a good proliferation and formation of a 3D-network. When these constructs were seeded with keratinocytes, a multilayered and partly stratified epidermis developed. As for the in vivo study, the dermal regeneration templates healed perfectly, while the cultured skin analogues showed complete take of the dermal compartment but spots of missing epidermis. The chamber proved effective in preventing spontaneous ingrowth of keratinocytes from the wound edges and the dressing efficiently kept the operation site intact and clean.

Routine pin tract care in external fixation is unnecessary: A randomised, prospective, blinded controlled study

C. Camathias1, V. Valderrabano2, H. Oberli2, M. Meuli3, P. Flach2

Introduction: Pin site infections are still seen in up to 40% of External Fixators (ExFx) and are therefore the most common complication with this device. There is no consensus in the literature as to the appropriate regimen for pin tract care and infection prevention. This study is the first intra-subject, randomised, prospective and blinded controlled trial comparing daily pin tract care to no pin tract care at all.

Method: Consecutive patients series (56 patients, 16 female, age 4–68y, mean 24y, in total 204 pins) recruited in the National Hospital in Honiara (Solomon Islands) during 2 years. Exclusion criteria were application of ExFx for less than two weeks or a non-standard ExFx. Pin treatment was allocated into groups anatomically, proximal and distal. Randomisation was intra-subject and intra-group: 101 pins had daily pin site care and 103 had no treatment at all. Endpoints: soft-tissue interface, stability of the pins, torsionally, as determined with a torque meter, osteolysis and pain. Assessment of pin sites blinded. Statistical analysis using the paired t test for parametric data and the Wilcoxon rank test for non-parametric data (Stat View).

Conclusion: There was no difference between the two groups. Soft-tissue interface 38% vs. 35% (granulation/secretion), stability 20 vs 25 Pins with loosening. Nosignificant stratified epithelial development. As for the in vitro study, the dermal regeneration templates healed perfectly, while the cultured skin analogues showed complete take of the dermal compartment but spots of missing epidermis. The chamber proved effective in preventing spontaneous ingrowth of keratinocytes from the wound edges and the dressing efficiently kept the operation site intact and clean.

Conclusion: Our study shows that pin cell-derived, autologous skin analogues with near normal skin anatomy can be engineered in vitro. We also show a valid pig model permitting the transplantation of laboratory-engineered skin analogues in a clinically relevant size. Hence, this animal model will be used to establish standardized transplantation procedures to perform pre-clinical studies.
Biliary complications after pediatric liver transplantation: experience over a 20-year period

Laithold Samuel1, McLin Valerie A.2, Belli Dominique C.2, Wildhaber Barbara E.1
1Pediatric Surgery, HUG Genève; 2Pediatric Hepatology, HUG Genève

Introduction: Analysis of biliary complications (BC) following pediatric liver transplantation (LT) over a 20 year period at the Swiss national reference center for pediatric LT in Geneva.

Methods: Retrospective study of all pediatric LT-patients of a single institution, from May 1990 to April 2011, median follow up of 104 months (range 3–240 m). Results: One hundred and six patients received 113 LT, i.e. 11 living (LD) and 102 deceased donors (DD). BC occurred in 24 patients (21.2%): in 4 LD (36% of LD-LT) and 20 DD (19.6% of DD-LT). Amongst 11 choledocho-choledochal anastomoses (CCA) were 16–20; 25–30 and 40–45) were asked to rate a selection of these pictures with a structured questionnaire.

Conclusion: Our results showed that healthy men and women rated adult genitalia after hypospadias repair significantly less positively than those of circumcised men (e.g. sum-score of overall genital perception, p = 0.01). However, effects were very weak. Conclusion of sum-score of overall genital perception = 0.15, so that the difference does not appear to be clinically relevant. Interestingly, no significant differences were found between the appraisal of hypospadias-patients’ genitalia and those of circumcised men regarding potential rejections as sexual partners.

Conclusion: These findings suggest that the fear of men with corrected hypospadias to be ridiculed or rejected by sexual partners is unfounded. Although the difference of genital appearance between corrected hypospadias and circumcised penis is visible for laypersons, the difference does not appear to be relevant and potential rejection as sexual partners could not be found in this study.

Disorders of sex development: Karyotype and gender assignment

A. Calinescu, M. Dirlewanger, P.D. Mouriquand, B.E. Wildhaber, J. Birieux
Hôpital des Enfants, Genève

Introduction: Children with disorders of sex development (DSD) are an enormous challenge as for their management. Multidisciplinary teams that manage these patients have to focus on the predictability of the gender identity as well as gender role from infancy through adulthood, without knowing what the individual really is. The goal of surgical genitoplasty in the management of children affected by DSD is to achieve a phenotype that can offer the patient the best possible quality of life. When choosing the type of surgical genitoplasty, the crucial question is: What should be privileged in choosing a certain gender over the other: Karyotype or sex of rearing?

Case presentation: A 2-year-old 46-XY-DSD girl and a 16-year-old 46-XX-DSD adolescent boy were addressed from abroad to our clinic for genital surgery. A multidisciplinary team analyzed the considerable surgical options, taking into account the karyotype, the etiology of their DSD, the development of external genitalia, the potential for adult fertility and sexual function, parental support, cultural factors, presumed gender identity and, last but not least, rearing sex of these quite old children. Consequently, we choose to perform a feminizing and masculinizing genitoplasty, respectively, respecting the sex of rearing, independently of their karyotype.

Conclusion: Reinforcing the sex of rearing by the surgical achievement of a concordant phenotype is an important tool in managing DSD children and their families, in an attempt to avoid gender dysphoria when these children reach adulthood. In that way, family environment, and in particular the mother’s feeling about the situation, reflected by the sex of rearing in our cases, are of utmost importance to take the ultimate decision. Only long term follow-up will confirm if we did right.

2 years’ review of pediatric emergencies admitted in the resuscitation room of a Swiss university hospital

N. Lutz1, N. Gandillon Van Der Mansbrughe1, PN Carroni2, V. Amei1, L. Ragnon2, M. Dolci2
1Department of Pediatric Surgery; 2Department of Emergency Medicine; 3Department of Paediatrics; 4Department of Anaesthesiology University Hospital Medical Centre of the County of Vaud (CHUV) Lausanne

Introduction: Paediatric resuscitation is an intense, stressful and challenging process performed in a specific surrounding. In the
resuscitation room (RR), a dedicated pediatric team is not always available and its composition varies according to local resources. A regular review of the children admitted in the resuscitation room and the assessment of various outcome measures are the basis of quality control (QC). The epidemiology of Potentially Life Threatening Paediatric (LTP) emergencies admitted in a Swiss university hospital has never been reported. The aims of this study were to review the LTP emergency population with regards to origin, patients’ demographics, reason for admission and final diagnosis, treatment modalities, critical events and outcome.

Methods: A retrospective observational cohort study of prospectively collected data was conducted, including all LTP emergencies admitted over a period of 2 years in the RR of a Swiss university hospital functioning as a tertiary level referral centre. Multiple variables including indication for transfer, mode of pre-hospital transportation, diagnosis and the time spent in RR were assessed. Data assessment took place 2 years after the implementation of a quality control (QC) team assessing the pediatric resuscitations occurring within the institution on a monthly basis.

Results: Out of 60939 pediatric emergencies treated in Lausanne University Medical Center over 2 years, a total of 277 LTP emergencies (0.46%) were admitted to the RR, including 160 boys and 117 girls, aged 6 days to 15.95 years (mean 6.69 years, median 5.06). The table below illustrates in more details the identified problems, average age, time in hospital and outcome of both surgical and medical groups of patients.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Surgical group (n = 121)</th>
<th>Medical group (n = 156)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td>8.4 (0.6–15.8)</td>
<td>5.3 (0.02–15.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NACA score</td>
<td>4 (3–6)</td>
<td>4 (3–6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCDS score</td>
<td>12 (3–15)</td>
<td>10 (3–15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time in RR (min)</td>
<td>52 (5–165)</td>
<td>52 (4–192)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer to PICU</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer to OR</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death in RR</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death after 48 hours</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of stay in hospital (days)</td>
<td>8 (1–194)</td>
<td>9 (1–145)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfusion</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions: With the need for health care quality improvement and financial reasons problematic in the prehospital and emergency setting. A thorough understanding of the resuscitation process and humans resources involved can be achieved with a systematic review of the cases. A dedicated quality control team evaluating LTP emergencies in a hospital will identify areas for improvement. A LTP registry at the national level would be of great value in Switzerland.

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Intranasal fentanyl reduces acute pain in children in the emergency department: a safety and efficacy study

D. Garcia, G. Staubli
Emergency Department, University Children’s Hospital, Zürich

Background: Provision of rapid, painless and effective analgesia to children remains problematic in the prehospital and emergency setting. Intranasal fentanyl has the potential to eliminate many of the problems of narcotic administration in children. It is standard of care in many countries but not in Switzerland. The aim of this study was to evaluate the safety and efficacy of intranasal fentanyl in children before implementing its use in our tertiary paediatric emergency department. Routine observations and pain scoring was undertaken prior to the child receiving 1.5 µg/kg intranasal fentanyl and 15 min after. We assessed the safety and efficacy of intranasal fentanyl and evaluated the satisfaction of the patients, their families and the providers.

Results: Thirty children were enrolled with a mean age of 6 11/12 years. 21 patients (70%) had a fracture. Early and significant reduction in pain was achieved in most cases. There was no significant alteration in pulse rate and respiratory rate or oxygen saturations. There were no negative side-effects. Satisfaction was rated highly by both patients and providers.

Conclusions: Intranasal fentanyl is safe and easy to use. Early and significant reduction in pain is achieved especially in limb injuries. It closes the time gap to intravenous administration of narcotics or makes it even superfluous. Intranasal fentanyl is now part of the standard of care at our institution.

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Gait analysis as an evaluation tool in paediatric orthopaedics – a case study

R. Ullmann1, H. Kälin2, K. Zdener3, M. Huybrechts4, E. Payner1, V. Fenner1
1Labor für Bewegungsanalyse, Ostschweizer Kinderspital, St. Gallen; 2Abteilung für Kinderorthopädie, Ostschweizer Kinderspital, St. Gallen

Introduction: 3D gait analysis (3DGA) is used as an investigation tool to objectively gait patterns before and after treatment. It thereby can improve monitoring of treatment in children with orthopaedic diseases. In contrast to a CT study, which does not reproduce the effective loading conditions in the hip, knee and ankle joint, 3DGA offers the opportunity to do a dynamic analysis by demonstrating joint loads and muscle activities.

Methods: Gait analysis is performed with a motion analysis system (Vicon, eight cameras), two force plates (AMTI) and a 12-channel EMG telemetry-receiver system (Noraxon). The PlugInGait marker set for the lower extremity is used. All children usually walk barefoot at a self selected speed. The standard gait analysis includes kinematics, kinetics, surface electromyography, a muscle function, and a passive motion test. The calculation of the moments which act on the joints can be made out of the means of kinematic data and the ground reaction force.

Results: A male child aged 15 years (tibial torsion right 21°, left 16°) underwent 3DGA before and one year after derotation osteotomy of both tibiae. Preoperatively, the foot progression angle was highly internally rotated, while the knee was externally rotated. After improving tibial torsion by 15° on the right and 20° on the left side, gait data shows a physiological foot progression and knee rotation angle. The postoperative kinetic data shows an external extension moment during terminal stance phase, which was absent before surgery, as well as a more typical loading in the frontal plane of the knee.

Conclusion: Gait analysis is a valuable and additional tool for quantifying pre- and postoperative results. It is also helpful to demonstrate precise pathological gait patterns and muscle activities, helping to treat the patients and to explain their pathology. Gait analysis should be used more often in clinical settings.
Coxa retrotorta in pediatric population —
Diagnostics from clinical examination to gait analysis for preoperative evaluation

H. Klima1, R. Ullmann1,2, V. Fenner1, K. Zdenek1,2, E. Payne1, H. Lengnick1,2
1Abteilung für Kinderorthopädie, Osteuropäische Kinderklinik St. Gallen; 
2Orthopädische Chirurgie, Kantonsspital St. Gallen;

Introduction: Coxa retrotorta is well known to be a prearthrosis of the hip joint and therefore should be corrected operatively. Clinical examination and conventional X-ray are diagnostic standard tools, whereas computed tomography (CT) allows quantification of femoral retroversion leading to the precise diagnosis. Nevertheless, children are rarely symptomatic and decision making for children and parents is difficult. Gait laboratory analysis gains relevance in diagnosis of unphysiological movement patterns in patients with coxa retrotorta.

Reproducible analytic findings causing disadvantageous pathologic pattern.

Methods: We studied five patients (15.5 ± 2.8) with clinical and CT-diagnosed coxa retrotorta using gait analysis (VICON, 8 MX cameras, Plug-in Gait). Focused were changes and abnormalities of the gait pattern of the patients compared to the physiological gait pattern.

Results: All patients presented with reduced or nullified internal rotation of the hip joint (<10°) and CT-diagnosed pathologic reduced anteversion (<5°) or absolute femoral retroversion in gait analysis showed in all patients an increased adduction of the hip in the coronal plane. Three of five patients had an increased external rotation of the knee joint of the affected leg in the transverse plane according to the clinical picture of kneecap out. The analysis of kinetics indicated a pathologic external valgus moment in almost all patients and in three of five patients a pathologic external flexion moment within the first 20% of the stance phase.

Conclusion: We summarize the diagnostic pathway of coxa retrotorta including clinical examination, image-guided tools and gait analysis. Kinematics and kinetics of the gait analysis highlighted unphysiological movement patterns in patients with coxa retrotorta. Bärlin et al. showed in a cadaver study an increased valgus joint alignment in diminished anteversion of the hip joint. Our preliminary results support these findings in children, an increased valgus moment in the knee joint in all our patients. It might therefore be discussed, if coxa retrotorta does not only affect the hip, but also the knee joint. Taking these changes in account, gait analysis can serve as an important diagnostic and preoperative planning tool in coxa retrotorta. Further studies will be necessary to analyze the reproducibility of these observations in a larger patient population.

Treatment of congenital anomalies of the forefoot

Weber Daniel1, Subotic Ulrike1, Dierauer Stefan2
1Pediatric Hand Surgery, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 2Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery, University Children’s Hospital Zurich

Congenital anomalies of the toes occur with analog patterns and with a similar incidence as those on the fingers. However, malformations of the forefoot find relatively little interest in publications and treatments and standards are still not well established. The aim is to present a series of children who were treated for malformations of the forefoot and to suggest treatment guidelines. Between 2000 and 2011 we have operated 85 children, among which the polydactylies were by far the largest group. Eleven had a duplication of the great toe, two a central polydactyly, 27 a postaxial polydactyly and 24 a postaxial polydactyly. Simple syndactylies were separated only in the first web space because the adjacent toes were of unequal length in 6 patients. The preferred age for surgery was around the first birthday. Predisposition to hypertrophic scar formation is an inherent problem and therefore we suggest routine postoperative silicone application. Good results with low complication rates can be achieved in most polydactylies of the foot. In postaxial polydactylies it is not always the most lateral toe that needs to be excised, because preservation of the sixth toe may sometimes better maintain the contour of the foot.

Management of preaxial polydactylies can be highly demanding and a congenital hallux varus of the remaining great toe can often be observed despite attempted primary correction. We advise collaboration with a pediatric orthopedic surgeon for complex malformations of the forefoot, particularly for preaxial polydactylies.

Familial clubfoot: three different treatment methods

V. Hald-Brändle1, B.E. Wildhaber2, G.U. Exner1
1Praxis Wallisellen; 2HCUGE Genève; 2OZZ Zürich

Introduction: Club foot treatment has changed from manipulation and dressing to casting, from major surgery to minor surgery and has become subject to trends and ‘fashion’. We report the experience of three offspring of one family, all boys with severe congenital bilateral clubfoot, each treated by using a different method.

Patients and Methods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Casting</th>
<th>Physiotherapy</th>
<th>Surgery</th>
<th>Splints</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1st 7 m</td>
<td>5 m daily</td>
<td>1 y extensive release</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>1st 4 m</td>
<td>Weekly, before casting</td>
<td>4 m: TAL, R, L 3 y extensive release, R only</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>taping</td>
<td>DFT: 1 st 2 daily, then 6 x 2 / week</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results:

Type of treatment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Invasive (splints, operation)</th>
<th>Conservative (DFT)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L 10-0-30/R 20-0-30</td>
<td>L 25-0-50/R 25’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eversion</td>
<td>R in midfoot only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L 10’/ R</td>
<td>L 25”/ R 25’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain</td>
<td>R knee after sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoses / orthoses</td>
<td>no pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>normal shoes / no orthoses</td>
<td>normal shoes / no orthoses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>intensive soccer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjective quality of life</td>
<td>excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents’ satisfaction</td>
<td>more distressing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>better handling of the child</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion: All three boys are pleased with their cosmetic and functional results and feel no limitations in their activities. However, using objective assessments of the results, they appear to be superior following DFT. Today both parents would choose the less distressing DFT — although time-consuming, — since the baby seemed to be happier with more freedom of movement and the parents were less distressed by surgery and casting.

Case report: angiosarcoma arising in a benign vascular malformation

O. Sanchez1, E. Guye1, A-L. Rougemon2, B.E. Wildhaber1, G.C. La Scala1
1Service de chirurgie pédiatrique, DEA; 2Département de Pathologie, Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève

Introduction: Angiosarcoma (AS) represents less than 2% of vascular neoplasms in children, usually of visceral locations or appearing following radiotherapy on benign vascular lesions, with a 5-year survival between 20 and 50%. We report the first pediatric case of an AS arising in a vascular malformation.

Case report: A 4-year-old otherwise healthy former premature girl (29 weeks gestational age, 1140 g birth weight) without risk factors for AS presented with a three month history of a painless subcutaneous ovoid mass on the lateral side of the left thigh, proximal to the knee, measuring 4.5 × 2 × 2 cm, compressible, with cutaneous hyperthermia and redness, but no thrill or surface ulceration. No palpable nodes, distant vascular lesions or masses were noted. Radiological findings on US, MRI and angiography in this growing lesion were not completely in keeping with a vascular malformation, thus warranting surgical removal. The pathology report described in-toto excision of the AS region and identified an area of AS: solidly cellular sheet-like area with occasional spindled cells, presenting mild nuclear atypia, a mitotic rate of 5/10 high-power fields, and immunostains consistent with endothelial differentiation. Of note, the AS region was only in the
Health-related quality of life and behavior of triplets at adolescent age
Giancarlo Natalucci1,2, Manuela Iten1, Julia Hofmann1, Hans U. Bucher1, Beatrice Latall1, Markus Landoh1  
1Child Development Center, University Children’s Hospital Zurich;  
2Department of Neonatology, University Hospital Zurich;  
Aims: To assess the health-related quality of life (HRQoL) and behavior of a cohort of triplets in adolescent age compared to gestational age-, birth weight- and sex-matched singleton controls. 
Methods: We examined 54 triplets of 19 sets and 51 gestational age-, birth weight- and sex-matched singleton controls at an age between 13–16 years regarding their self-rated HRQoL. Proxy reports were obtained regarding both HRQoL and behaviour measured by the Kidscreen 52 (KS 52) child and parent form, and behavior was measured by the Achenbach’s Child Behavioral Check List parents (CBCL) and teachers (TRF) form. 
Results: All subjects were born prematurely (gestational age range 27 0/7–35 6/7 weeks, birth weight range 750–2500 grams). Self-rated HRQoL was similar in triplets and controls. Parent-reported HRQoL was better in triplets than in controls, particularly for the areas of Moods and emotions; “Autonomy”; “Parent relations and home life” and “Peers and social support”. Average CBCL composite global scales (“Internalising-, “Externalising- and “Total behavior problem scale”) and TRF “Internalising behaviour problem scale’’ were significantly lower in triplets compared with controls. Compared to community norms both HRQoL and Behaviour measures in triplets were in the normal range. Multivariate analysis showed that socioeconomic status, monochorionicity and gestational age influenced outcome stronger than other perinatal factors. 
Conclusions: HRQoL and behavior in triplets at adolescent age is satisfactory and in many aspects better than in matched singleton controls. Socioeconomic factors, monochorionicity and gestational age play a major role in the prediction of long term outcome of these children.

Lessons learned after 2 full scale disaster exercises in a Swiss pediatric hospital
Pediatric disaster plan team, Hôpital de l’Enfance, Lausanne  
Introduction: Following a disaster, up to 50% of mass casualties are children. The number of disaster increases worldwide, including in Switzerland. Following national order, the mapping of the various risks of disaster in Switzerland will be completed by the end of 2012. Pre-hospital disaster drills and plans are well established and regularly tested. In-hospital disaster plans are much less frequently tested, if never been reported in Switzerland. Based on our local constraints, we set up and evaluated a disaster plan during two full scale exercises. 
Methods: In a university hospital treating more than 35,000 pediatric emergencies per year, two exercises involving mock victims were created and tested. One exercise was performed on two separate occasions, on each occasion. In-hospital communication needed readjustment. Identification and in-hospital tracking of the children remained problematic. Hospital employees showed great enthusiasm and stressed the positive effect of full scale exercises on their knowledge of the hospital disaster plan. 
Conclusions: Performing real life disaster exercises in a pediatric hospital was very beneficial. The disaster plan was adapted to local needs and updated accordingly. An alarm transmission protocol was elaborated and tested. A hospital identification plan for injured children was created and tested. Full scale hospital exercises evaluating disaster plans revealed several weaknesses in the system. Practice readjustments based on local experience were made. A tested pediatric disaster plan adapted to local constraints could minimize chaos, optimize care and support in the event of a real disaster. Children’s identification and family reunification following a disaster remains a challenge.

Are Growing Pains a Parasomnia?  
University Children’s Hospital Zurich  
Background: The so-called growing pains (GP) are affecting 4–37% of all children with a peak incidence in preschool age. The underlying cause is still unknown. Although parasomnias (e.g. sleep terrors) share several common features with growing pains such as age at onset, daytime of appearance, self-limited course and complete absence of symptoms on the following day, an association has not been established between the 2 conditions. 
Objective: To analyse the pain characteristics of children with GP and compare the sleep characteristics of the children with and without GP in order to investigate the possibility that GP constitute a parasomnian. 
Patients and Methods: The parents of 58 children with a diagnosis of GP according to the Peterson criteria filled a questionnaire about the characteristics of the GP and the sleep characteristics of their children. The study group was then subdivided in 2 groups according to the time of pain onset: “evening GP” occurring already in the late afternoon and/or at bedtime, and “night GP” occurring only after falling asleep during the first half of the night. 38 children from a study about children’s sleep patterns served as control cohort. 
Results: Children with GP had more difficulties waking up in the morning (p <0.0001) and re-entering sleep after waking up (p <0.0001), had a lower overall sleep quality (p = 0.0002), used more commonly a transitional object (cuddly toy) (p = 0.002) and suffered more often from sleep terrors (p = 0.005). In a multivariate analysis the factors wake-up difficulties, difficulties with re-entering sleep after waking up, sleep terrors and transitional object remained independently associated with GP. 14 children (24%) qualified for the definition of “night GP” and 16 (28%) had “evening GP”. “Night GP” was significantly more common in boys (p = 0.009), had fewer pain attacks during one night (p = 0.04), were less likely to have their pain attacks following hectic days (p = 0.04), had a better overall sleep quality (p = 0.048) and more commonly sleep terrors (p = 0.1) than children with “evening GP”. In the multivariate analysis the factors gender, sleep terrors and occurrence after hectic days remained independently significant. 
Conclusion: Children with the so-called GP have a disturbed sleep pattern. The highly significant association of growing pains, especially of the “night GP” variant, with sleep terrors supports the hypothesis of an association between these conditions and warrants further investigations.
Physical performance limitations in adult
and adolescent survivors of childhood cancer
C.S. Rueegg1, C.E. Rebholz2, G. Michel1, E. Bergstraesser1,
N.X. von der Weid3, C.E. Kuehni1, for the Swiss Paediatric Oncology
Group (SPOG)
1Swiss Childhood Cancer Registry, Institute of Social and Preventive
Medicine, University of Bern, Finkenhubelweg 11, 3012 Bern, Switzerland;
2University Children’s Hospital, Steinwiesstr. 79, 8032 Zurich, Switzerland;
3Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois (CHUV), Pediatric Hematology-Oncoology Unit, 1011 Lausanne, Switzerland

Objectives: There are no studies in Europe reporting on physical performance in survivors of childhood cancer. We aimed to: 1) describe the physical performance limitations in adult and adolescent survivors of childhood cancer; 2) identify factors associated with performance limitations; 3) assess whether survivors reached physical activity recommendations of the Centres of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Methods: As part of the Swiss Childhood Cancer Survivor Study (SCCSS) we sent a detailed questionnaire to all survivors (≥16 years) registered in the Swiss Childhood Cancer Registry (SCCR) who were diagnosed between 1976–2003 at an age <16 years. Associations between potential risk factors (cancer-related, socio-economic and demographic factors) and performance limitations were assessed with multivariable logistic regression models.

Results: The sample for analysis included 1383 survivors from the Swiss Childhood Cancer Survivor Study (SCCSS) we sent a detailed questionnaire to all survivors (≥16 years) registered in the Swiss Childhood Cancer Registry (SCCR) who were diagnosed between 1976–2003 at an age <16 years. Associations between potential risk factors (cancer-related, socio-economic and demographic factors) and performance limitations were assessed with multivariable logistic regression models.

Methods: The Swiss Paediatric Surveillance Unit (SPSU) is also internationally integrated.

Methods: SPSU is a network of all Swiss paediatric teaching clinics (currently 33), which participate in study protocols and report cases by a card mailing system. The system is well accepted by Swiss pediatricians as the 100% return rate of initial reporting cards puts into evidence.

Results: The results of 15 years of surveillance by SPSU and 18 studies lead more than once to changes in public health policy in Switzerland: 1) In 2003 the results of the surveillance of vitamin K deficiency bleeding in newborns demonstrated, that the guidelines needed to be adapted by implementing a third dose four weeks after birth. 2) Due to the overall low prevalence of congenital toxoplasmosis and the lack of scientific evidence regarding the effectiveness of
The Belgian Paediatric Surveillance Unit “PediSurv”

M. Sibbe, D. Huy
Scientific Institute of Public Health, Belgium

Introduction: In 2003 the Belgian network PediSurv (Paediatric diseases Surveillance) was developed in order to collect information about some vaccine preventable diseases. Mumps, measles, acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) were included. Invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) was added in 2006 following introduction of the 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) in 2007 and Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) in 2009. During the Influenza A(H1N1)2009 pandemic, a subset of camps participated influenza surveillance of children <5 years old.

Methods: All Belgian paediatricians (and GPs working in Brussels) were invited to participate to this network. Participation is voluntary and requests a monthly reporting of the diseases even in case of a zero case notification. Zero notification and reporting are possible by returning the monthly paper form or by clicking a link in a monthly email reminder.

Results: In 2010 approximately 500 clinicians participated monthly (with 35% of the Belgian paediatricians). Measles incidence remained above the elimination threshold of <1 per million and measles outbreaks are ongoing in 2011. Non-polo AFP rate ranged from 0.06 to 0.50, meaning the surveillance system is missing cases. Incidence of IPD in children <2 year decreased significantly after introduction of the PCV7 vaccine and was estimated at 104/100,000 cases in 2009. Vaccine effectiveness on vaccine-serotypes was estimated at 97%. We demonstrated serotype replacement, especially with serotypes 1, 7F, 19A and 5. HUS study highlighted the predominance of E. Coli O157:H7 as the principal aetiology. During the influenza A(H1N1)2009 pandemic we demonstrated that hospitalization rate was highest among children <1 year.

Conclusion: Although PediSurv is not an exhaustive surveillance system, the stable participation allowed to observe trends and provided valuable information. Information is being used for decision-making in public health, such as the recommendations for the use of new PCV covering more serotypes and to monitor progresses in the vaccination schedule and introduction of a booster.

The HiB studies documented a significant incidence reduction after introduction of the UK vaccination programme, but noted an increase of cases towards the end of the study period, prompting a review of the vaccination schedule and introduction of a booster.

Conclusion: BPSU VPD studies played an important part in informing vaccination policy, have successfully monitored VPDs, and informed important schedule amendments, such as introducing a HiB booster.

The Importance of engaging with patient support groups: education, research and influencing national policy on rare disease

Y. Zurynski, E. Elliott
Children’s Hospital at Westmead

Introduction: Research into rare diseases is difficult due to lack of awareness of the importance of rare diseases, lack of research funding and infrastructure. Paediatric Surveillance Units (PSUs) produce important epidemiological and clinical information about rare diseases which is usually not available from other sources.

Methods: Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit conducts surveillance for up to 16 different rare childhood conditions simultaneously, with monthly reporting by ~1350 paediatricians (~80% by e-mail). Over 50 conditions have been studied. APSU recognised the need to engage with and inform parents, carers, the community and policy-makers about new knowledge generated through surveillance studies.

Results: The APSU is actively engaged with a number of policy and patient support groups including the Steve Waugh Foundation, SMILE Foundation and the Association of Genetic Support Australasia. These partnerships have been very useful in raising awareness of rare diseases in the community, because these organisations help disseminate results of surveillance. Our engagement with these groups has also led to development of a draft national plan for rare diseases and a funding proposal to the Australian Research Council to study the impacts of rare diseases on families, health services and paediatricians. The paediatricians’ survey will determine their educational needs and preferences for modes of delivery of education and resources, and will further raise their awareness of rare diseases.

APSU already provides information for parents and carers in lay language, including a summary of rare conditions, the rationale for the APSU study and links to educational resources and family support groups (www.apsu.org.au). Information sheets may be printed by paediatricians and given free of charge for education. The APSU website also contains lists of publications about rare diseases we have studied for access by parents and paediatricians.

Conclusion: Paediatric surveillance units produce extremely useful information about rare diseases which is relevant to clinicians, policy makers, parents and carers. It is important to ensure that new knowledge produced by PSUs is widely and easily accessible. Parents and carers are important allies when developing new studies and when raising awareness of the results of surveillance studies.

Paediatric Emergency Department Surveillance of Injuries Associated with Baby Products, 1990–2008

M. Fréchette1, S.R. McFaul1, R. Skinner2, J. Cram3, A.M. Ugnat1,2,3
Public Health Agency of Canada

Introduction: Baby products (BPs) are commonly used items in most Canadian households with children. A wide array of products and designs are available and as such there is considerable potential for various injury scenarios. It is not uncommon to see recalls of various BPs. In the literature, there are few reports related to individual products (e.g. baby walkers, strollers) but no comprehensive studies examining the full range of BPs.

Methods: Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting and Prevention Program (CHIRPP) include emergency departments of 11 paediatric and 4 general hospitals. The entire database was searched for cases involving injuries associated with BPs (cribs, high chairs, strollers, baby walkers, bouncy chairs, infant swings, changing tables, toilet training seats, jumpers, playpens, car seats, carriers, crib mattresses, bath seats and soothers/pacifiers).

Results: Over 25,000 cases was identified, accounting for about 4% of all incidents involving children less than 72 months; 60% of the incidents involved infants (0–11 months). Cribs and strollers were the most frequent BPs involved (31% of all cases); however, the contribution of the studies broadly fall into the following categories:

1. Assessment of the pre-vaccine introduction burden/descriptive epidemiology – this included the vancella outcome study.
2. An evaluation of the impact of a current vaccination programme included studies on congenital rubella syndrome, Haemophilus influenza B (HiB) and acute flaccid paralysis.
3. An evaluation of the safety of a current vaccination programme included studies on Guillain Barré Syndrome, MMR meningococcal meningitis and subacute sclerosing panencephalitis.
as the potential for some BPs to malfunction raises concerns. CHIRPP continues to report injuries associated with baby walkers following a 2004 ban on the sale, advertisement and importation of these products. This reinforces the importance of ongoing surveillance, together with the ban and recall of baby products.

Alcohol Intoxication among children in The Netherlands in the period 2007–2010
Dr. van der Lely, Nicolaas, Paediatrician
Reinier de Graaf Hospital, Delft, The Netherlands

Aim: To study the number and characteristics of children who are admitted to the hospital because of alcohol intoxication and to create a prevention system in line with primary care.

Setting: All Hospitals in the Netherlands

Methods: All Paediatricians of the country report monthly by standardised interview, the parameters of the children who were hospitalised in the paediatric wards.

Results: During the years 2007–2010 an increase could be seen in the total number of admitted children (fig. 1). After a period of diminution; the mean age of this group increased in the years 2009 and 2010 (fig. 2).

Figure 1

Figure 2

Mean age

Conclusion: The number of children admitted with alcohol intoxication in The Netherlands is still rising significant. This study shows the seriousness of adolescent intoxication.

Key words: children, alcohol, intoxication, hospital admission

J.J. Schweizer1, C.M.F. Knoepkens2, E.K. George3, O.F. Norbruís4, R.A.A. Pelleboer5, J. Verhage6, J.H.C. de Roo7, M.L. Meanin1
Depts of Pediatrics of: 1Leiden University Medical Center; 2Free University Medical Center Amsterdam; 3Medical Center Alkmaar; 4Sophia Hospital Zwolle; 5Catharina Hospital Eindhoven; 6Rijnstate Hospital Arnhem, The Netherlands

Introduction: Two national surveys on childhood celiac disease (CD) in the Netherlands, performed between 1975–1990 (S1) and 1993–2000 (S2), showed a rising incidence and changing clinical presentation of CD. We investigated the epidemiology and clinical presentation of CD in the Netherlands and compared them to previous findings.

Methods: Children newly diagnosed with CD were identified through the National Pediatric Surveillance System. Data on gender, age, and CD were anonymously collected.

Results: In 2010, 301 cases of CD were reported. We collected and analyzed completed questionnaires on 230 cases (76%). There were 66% girls (S1 58%, S2 62%), with a median age of 4.4 yrs. (S1 1.5 yrs, S2 2.1 yrs). Cases were diagnosed on clinical grounds (78%), through screening in associated disorders (13%) and in family members (9%). The incidence rate was 0.91/1000 live born infants (S1: 0.22, S2: 0.81). Chronic diarrhea occurred in 22% (S1 72%, S2 41%), distended abdomen in 25% (S1 76%, S2 48%), failure to thrive in 19% (S1 63%, S2 24%), lassitude in 20% (S1 unknown, S2 12%), unexplained pain in 44% (S1 7%; S2 16%), and anorexia in 34% (S1 0%, S2 5%).

Conclusion: The epidemiology of childhood CD in the Netherlands is still changing. The percentage of females, age at diagnosis and incidence are rising, compared to both earlier surveys. Chronic diarrhea, distended abdomen and failure to thrive occur less often, and abdominal pain, lassitude and anorexia occur more often. We suggest that these findings may partly be explained by better recognition of less typical clinical presentations, in addition to active case finding in relatives and associated disorders.

Lips Ulrich
Kinderschutzgruppe und Opferberatungsstelle, Universitäts-Kinderkliniken Zürich

Objective: Since the incidence of SBS in Switzerland is not known, we conducted a nationwide retrospective study covering 5 years.

Method: Data collection through SPSU system. Inclusion criteria: Presence of 1) ≥2 clinical symptoms (altered consciousness, convulsions, respiratory irregularities, bulging fontanel) or 2) 1 eye finding (retinal haemorrhages, vitreous haemorrhages or) 3) 1 MRI/CT finding (subdural haematoma, subarachnoid haematoma, parenchymatous lesions) or 4) history of shaking; all these findings in a child ≤6 years. Exclusion criteria: age >6 years or documented accident/disease explaining symptoms/findings. Outcome measurement following King’s Outcome Scale for Childhood Head Injury (KOSCHI); (Crouchman M, et al. Arch Dis Child. 2001;84:190–4).

Results: Of 56 reported cases 49 met inclusion criteria. Cases reported from only 13 cantons; unexplained high incidence in 2005. High male preponderance (31 m, 18 f), mean age 4.0 months (1–58). Clinical symptoms present in 42 patients, retinal/vitreous haemorrhages documented in 39, brain imaging pathologic in 46 patients. Shaking confessed in 16 cases. Outcome (n = 47 patients, 2 patients lost for follow-up): Death (KOSCHI 1) 8 (16%), vegetative state (KOSCHI 2) 0, severe disability (KOSCHI 3) 11 (28%), moderate disability (KOSCHI 4) 14 (36%), good recovery (KOSCHI 5) 14 (36%).

Conclusions: 1) According to our data incidence of SBS in Switzerland is 14 in 100 000 live births, which corresponds to incidences in other western countries. 2) Demographic characteristics and outcome of our patients are comparable to published studies. 3) Lack of adequate reporting in half of Swiss cantons.
incidence rate of Sh-HUS significantly correlates with indicators of livestock farming intensity, supporting the impact of direct and indirect contact with animals or fecal contaminants in transmission of STEC to humans. The present association between thrombocytopenia, central nervous system involvement and worse outcome needs confirmation and if any, further evaluation.

**Introduction:**

or less & to detect any temporal association with influenza infection

**Methods:**

September 2011. 79 children met the criteria for Guillain-Barré syndrome & 2 for Fisher syndrome. 61 of these 81 children had clinical GBS/FS symptoms as follows: upper respiratory tract infection: 24, chicken pox:2, “flu-like symptoms”:2, cytomegalovirus:2, Ebstein Barr virus;2, influenza A:1, influenza B:1. The HPA has confirmed that 3 children with GBS were given H1N1 vaccinations and 3 were given seasonal influenza vaccines as follows: H1N1 vaccine: one child was given 2 doses of Celvapan (Baxter) 4 weeks before the onset of GBS; this child was also given chicken pox vaccine (Varilix). The other 2 Seasonal influenza vaccine; the onset of GBS & the other 2 were vaccinated respectively 4 & 7 weeks before the onset of GBS.

**Results:**

These results are preliminary, awaiting confirmation of all notified children’s vaccination details via the HPA. The data suggest that GBS/FS cases are strongly associated with previous infections.

**Acknowledgements:**

There is little evidence of an aetiological link between H1N1 vaccine; the onset of GBS & the other 2 were vaccinated respectively 4 & 7 weeks before the onset of GBS. The present association between thrombocytopenia, central nervous system involvement and worse outcome needs confirmation and if any, further evaluation.

**Vitamin D deficiency rickets in Australia:**

need for screening and early treatment in high risk groups

**Introduction:**

Vitamin D deficient rickets can lead to poor growth, motor delay, bone fragility and hypocalcaemic seizures. There is also increasing evidence for non-skeletal roles of Vitamin D including immune disease, cardiovascular disease and cancer. The incidence of this potentially serious and preventable condition is not known in Australia.

**Methods:**

Prospective surveillance study using the Australian Paediatric Surveillance Unit (APSU) Vitamin D Rickets Study Group The Children’s Hospital at Westmead

**Introduction:**

Vitamin D deficient rickets can lead to poor growth, motor delay, bone fragility and hypocalcaemic seizures. There is also increasing evidence for non-skeletal roles of Vitamin D including autoimmune disease, cardiovascular disease and cancer. The incidence of this potentially serious and preventable condition is not known in Australia.

**Results:**

Vitamin D deficiency rickets is not rare in Australia as previously thought. As the APSU system is designed to determine the incidence of severe hyperbilirubinemia in late preterm and term infants in Switzerland.

**Conclusions:**

Severe hyperbilirubinemia is a significant problem in late preterm and term infants in Switzerland.

**Patients and methods:**

A nationwide prospective study was performed in collaboration with the Swiss Paediatric Surveillance Unit. Data of all newborn patients >35 0/7 weeks of gestational age (GA) with at least one value of total serum bilirubin (TSB) exceeding the upper limit of exchange transfusion (ET) were registered in a centralized database. We here present data of the study period 2007-2008. Comparative numbers about live births were supplied by the Swiss Federal Office of Statistics.

**Results:**

We report on 60 cases exceeding the upper limit of ET, representing an incidence of 41/100 000 live births ≥35 0/7 weeks GA of which 68.3% were born at term and 66.7% were males. In only three infants TSB was >510 μmol/l (30 mg/dl). Blood group incompatibility was responsible for severe hyperbilirubinemia in 2/5 patients. All patients received at least one exchange transfusion. Of the 49 patients severe hyperbilirubinemia could have been avoided if anamnestic risk factors and clinical signs were assessed and interpreted correctly. Although indication for ET was given in all patients, only in 13 cases (21.7%) ET was performed, without any correlation between performed ET and severity of hyperbilirubinemia.

**Conclusions:**

With a better application of the existing recommendations, some cases of severe hyperbilirubinemia could have been avoided. Nevertheless, severe neonatal hyperbilirubinemia has a lower incidence in Switzerland compared to other countries, probably due to a longer duration of phototherapy and a well developed outpatient care system. In 2012, case payment (Swiss-DRG) will be introduced in Switzerland for all hospitalized patients. This change risks to induce a shortening of the duration of perinatal hospitalization for economic reasons and potentially a disturbance of the so far well functioning health care system for neonates. Therefore, the incidence of severe hyperbilirubinemia in neonates needs to be kept under close surveillance over the next years.
A lasting legacy? A BPSU study case review
evaluate public health impact
D. Zener, R. Lynn, R. Pebody
British Paediatric Surveillance Unit

Introduction: The British Paediatric Surveillance Unit (BPSU) has facilitated the study of rare non-infectious paediatric conditions over the last 25 years. We argue that many studies had measurable impact on UK and international public health policy and this paper reviews two high impact BPSU studies to demonstrate their role in informing public health policy.

Methods: We present two examples of rare conditions, where BPSU studies have led to significant policy changes – Vitamin K deficiency and Reye’s syndrome (rare non-inflammatory encephalopathy with hepatic dysfunction). We review and describe the policy changes and the role that BPSU studies had in shaping these.

Results: The study on Reye’s syndrome demonstrated an association between this condition and use of Aspirin in adolescents, prompting the UK Committee on Safety of Medicines to issue warnings of Aspirin use in the under 12 year olds. Long-term BPSU surveillance showed the virtual elimination of Reye’s syndrome in children under 1 year of age in the UK, leading to the finding of an association between Vitamin K deficiency and haemorrhagic disease of the newborn (HDN), led to the UK recommendation of Vitamin K administration in neonates, followed by a cancer controversy. Subsequent BPSU studies (ending 2009) reconfirmed that intramuscular injection is safe and effective to prevent Vitamin K associated HDN.

Conclusion: BPSU studies continue to have a large impact on public health policy. Two case studies demonstrated that surveillance of rare diseases led to significant findings, resulting in public health recommendations with measurable population impact demonstrated by monitoring through BPSU follow-up studies.

Antibody responses to natural influenza A/H1N109 disease or following immunization with adjuvanted vaccines, in immunocompetent and immunocompromised children
S. Merk, a, b M. Bel, a L’huillier, c P. A. Crisinel, c Combescur, c L. Kaisen, c S. Grillen, c K. Postay-Barbe, c A. S. Siegrist a with the H1N1 Epidemiology Study Group of Geneva

Background: Before/during the influenza A/H1N1/09 pandemic of autumn/winter 2009/2010, we compared antibody responses elicited by the infection and by immunization with adjuvanted vaccines, in immunocompetent and immunocompromised children.

Methods and Results: Prospective parallel cohort field study enrolling children with confirmed influenza A/H1N1/09 infection or immunized with 1 (immunocompetent) or 2 (immunocompromised) doses of influenza A/H1N1/09 squalene-based AS03-(Pandemrix®, GSK) or MF59-(Focetria, Novartis) adjuvanted vaccines. Antibody titers were measured by hemagglutination-inhibition (HAI) and microneutralisation (MN) assays 4-6 weeks post-vaccination/infection. Vaccine adverse events were self-recorded during 7 days. Antibody titers in 48 immunocompetent children after a single immunization (HAI) and MN seroprotection rates: 98%; HAI-geometric mean titer (GMT); 1/MN-GMT: 370) were as high as in 51 convalescent children (seroprotection rates: 98%; (HAI); 92%; (MN); GMT: 350 (HAI); 212 (MN). Twenty-seven immunocompromised children reached slightly lower seroprotection rates (HAI: 89%; MN: 85%) but similar antibody titers (HAI-GMT: 225) after 2 immunizations. Adverse events increased with age (P=0.01) and were more frequent with Pandemrix® than Focetria® (P=0.03).

Conclusion: In immunocompetent children, similarly high seroresponses may be expected after a single dose of adjuvanted vaccine as after infection. Two vaccine doses were sufficient for most immunocompromised children.

Glucagon-like peptide 1 and peptide YY show a significant increase in obese children compared to normalweight children
S Beglinger 1, S Graf 1, C Pizzagalli 2, A C Gerspach 1, R E Steinert 1, C Beglinger 1, U Zumsteeg 1
University Children’s Hospital Basel, Switzerland, Department of Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes 1 and University Hospital Basel, Switzerland, Clinical Research Center, Department of Biomedicine and Division of Gastroenterology

Background and Aims: Food intake is related to the release of satiety hormones of the gastroentero-endocrine cells. The physiology of these hormones during normal meal intake remains unclear. Further it is known that impaired insulin sensitivity and diabetes mellitus type 2 is a consequence of overweight. This study compares the response to meal intake of three gut hormones (glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1), peptide YY (PYY) and ghrelin) between lean and obese adolescents.

In parallel we investigated the insulin sensitivity of these children.

Methods: A total of 16 obese (8 males, 8 females) and 14 lean (5 males, 9 females) adolescents, aged 8–16 years, consumed a mixed 500 kcal meal (bread, butter and chocolate milk) during which plasma was obtained for measurement of ghrelin, GLP-1 and total PYY. Fasting glucose and insulin levels were used to calculate insulin sensitivity using the HOMA index.

Results: Fasting ghrelin tended to be lower in obese than in lean subjects (not statistically significant); after food intake ghrelin levels fell in both groups. Fasting GLP-1 and PYY levels were similar in both groups; after food intake PYY and GLP-1 levels were significantly attenuated in the obese group (p<0.05, respectively). Obese adolescents showed higher fasting and postprandial glucose and insulin levels (p<0.05, respectively).

Postprandial glucose levels in the lean subjects had returned to baseline by 120 min after the start of the meal. Glucose levels at 120 min. in the obese subjects still remained

Double tracer gas single breath washout – validation and comparison with conventional lung function tests in children with and without cystic fibrosis
Florian Singer 1, 2, Chiara Abbas 1, Georgette Stern 1

Elisabeth Kieninger 1, Oliver Fuchs 1, Nicolas Regamey 1, R E Steinert 1, C Pizzagalli 2, A C Gerspach 1, R E Steinert 1, C Beglinger 1, U Zumsteeg 1
University Children’s Hospital Basel, Switzerland, Department of Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes 1 and University Hospital Basel, Switzerland, Clinical Research Center, Department of Biomedicine and Division of Gastroenterology
on average higher than those at baseline. As expected, the HOMA index was significantly higher in obese compared to lean subjects (p < 0.01) suggesting insulin resistance.

**Conclusions:** 1. Meal-related changes in ghrelin, GIP-1 and PYY in obese subjects expected a significantly different hormone release pattern compared to normal weight subjects. This disturbed release could contribute to the development or worsening of obesity. 2. Obese adolescents have an increased insulin resistance.

**Estradiol and progesterone strongly inhibit the innate immune response of newborn mononuclear cells**

**YR-O 5**

Eric Giannoni1,2, Laurence Guignard2, Marlies Knaup Reymond1, Matthias Roth-Kleiner1, Thierry Calandra2, Thierry Roger1, Service de Médecine et Pharmacie, Clermont-Ferrand, France; 2Division of Pulmonary Diseases, University Hospital of Bern, Switzerland; 3Department of Functional Neuroanatomy, Department of Biomedicine, University Basel; 4Department of Neonatology, University Hospital Basel (UKBB);

**Introduction:** Newborns are particularly susceptible to bacterial infections due to quantitative and qualitative deficiencies of the neonatal innate immune system. However, the mechanisms underlying these deficiencies are poorly understood. Given that fetuses are exposed to high concentrations of estradiol and progesterone during gestation and at the time of delivery, we hypothesized that these hormones impair neonatal innate immune responses.

**Methods:** Umbilical cord blood was collected on placemats from healthy term newborns and adult blood was taken from healthy volunteers. Cord blood mononuclear cells (CBMCs) and adult peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) were extracted by Ficoll Hypaque gradient density centrifugation. Mononuclear cells were isolated from mononuclear cells using magnetic microbeads coupled to an anti-CD14 antibody. Cells were incubated for 16 hours with estradiol, progesterone and cortisol. Messenger RNAs and steroid receptor agonists were quantified by bioassay, ELISA, RT-PCR and Western blotting.

**Results:** At concentrations present in umbilical cord blood, estradiol and progesterone are powerful inhibitors of NF-κB activation and cytokine production by CBMCs and newborn monocytes exposed to endotoxin (LPS), bacterial lipopeptide (Pam3CSK4) and Escherichia coli and Group B Streptococcus, the two most common causes of neonatal sepsis. Significantly, estradiol and progesterone reduce cytokine production by CBMCs as efficiently as hydrocortisone. Moreover, CBMCs and newborn monocytes respond to lower concentrations of estradiol and progesterone than adult PBMCs and monocytes. The increased sensitivity of CBMCs to the anti-inflammatory effects of estradiol and progesterone is associated with higher expression levels of estrogen and membrane progesterone receptor subtypes and is independent of a downregulation of TR2, TR4, and MYD88 in newborn cells.

**Conclusion:** Elevated blood concentrations of estradiol and progesterone acting on mononuclear cells expressing high levels of steroid receptors contribute to impair innate immune responses in newborns. Therefore, intratracheal exposure to estradiol and progesterone may participate to increase susceptibility to infection during the neonatal period.

**The RNA-binding protein RBM3 is involved in hypothermia induced neuroprotection**

**YR-O 6**

Sophorn Chip1,2, Andrea Zeilner1, Cordula Nitsch1, Sven Wellmann1,2,1 University Children’s Hospital Basel (UKBB); 2Section of Functional Neuroanatomy, Department of Biomedicine, University Basel; 3Department of Neonatology, University Hospital Zurich

**Introduction:** Induced hypothermia is the only therapy with proven efficacy to reduce brain damage after perinatal asphyxia. While metabolism, low temperature induces a small subset of proteins that includes the RNA-binding protein RBM3 (RNA-binding motif protein 3), the role of RBM3 is not yet known.

**Methods:** First, RBM3 expression was determined in the developing brain of mice. Second, RBM3 induction in response to hypothermia was studied in neurons and rat pheochromocytoma cells (PC12). Third, we performed over-expression experiments.

**Results:** Blocking RBM3 expression in neuronal cells by specific siRNAs vector-driven RBM3 over-expression prevented activation of Neuroanatomy, Department of Biomedicine, University Basel; 1,2 Pulmonary Diseases, University Hospital of Bern, Switzerland; 1,2 Department of Functional Neuroanatomy, Department of Biomedicine, University Basel; 1,2 Department of Neonatology, University Hospital Basel (UKBB);

**Conclusion:** Blocking RBM3 expression in neuronal progenitor cells seems promising, which might suggest a function for cell renewal and repair to the CNS.

**Anti-Aspergillus defense is NET-Calprotectin dependent and reconstituted after Gene Therapy in human Chronic Granulomatous Disease (CGD)**

**YR-O 7**

Matteo Bianchi1, Maria J. Niemiec1, Laurence Guignard1, Constantin F. Urban1, Janine Reichenbach1, 1Division of Immunology/Haematology/BMT, University Children’s Hospital Zurich, Switzerland; 2Antifungal Immunity Group, Molecular Biology Department, Laboratory for Molecular Infection Medicine Sweden, Umeå University, Umeå, Sweden; 3These authors contributed equally to this work

**Introduction:** Infection by Aspergillus spp is a potentially lethal disease in patients with neutropenia or impaired neutrophil function. We showed previously that Aspergillus hyphae which are too large for intracellular phagocytosis induced NETs after reconstitution of species-dependent formation of neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs). NETs are composed of chromatin (DNA and histones) and intracellular antimicrobial substances that are liberated by activated neutrophils for trapping of microbes and concentrated antimicrobial defense. This process is defective in chronic granulomatous disease (CGD) due to impaired phagocyte nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NAPDH) oxidase function.

**Methods:** Antifungal activity of free and NET-released calprotectin (S100A8A9) was assessed by incubation of A. nidulans with purified calprotectin, induced NETs from control and CGD neutrophils after gene therapy (GT) in presence or absence of Zn2+ or s-A100A9 antibody, and with induced NETs from wild type or S100A9−/− mouse neutrophils.

**Results:** The antifungal agent responsible for A. nidulans growth inhibition within NETs has not been characterized. We identified the host zinc-chelator calprotectin as neutrophil-associated antifungal agent expressed within NETs. Calprotectin inhibits A. nidulans growth reversibly by low concentration and leads to irreversible fungal starvation at higher concentration. Reconstituted NET-formation was associated with rapid cure of pre-existing therapy refractory invasive pulmonary aspergillosis in vivo.

**Conclusion:** These results demonstrate the critical role of NET-associated calprotectin in human innate immune defense to invasive Aspergillus infection.

**Deficient anti-viral control in cystic fibrosis airway epithelial cells upon virus infection**

**YR-O 8**

E. Kiener1, M. Varella1, M.P. Alves1, B.S. Kofd1, F. Blank1, P. Latzin1, C. Cassatella1, T. Geiser1, S. L.Johnston1, M.R. Edwards1 and N. Regamey2, 1Division of Paediatric Respiratory Medicine, University Children’s Hospital, Bern, Switzerland; 2Laboratoire d’Immunologie, Facultés de Médecine et Pharmacie, Clermont-Ferrand, France; 3Division of Pulmonary Diseases, University Hospital of Bern, Switzerland; 4Department of Respiratory Medicine, National Heart & Lung Institute, Imperial College London, United Kingdom

**Background:** Viral infections play an important role in cystic fibrosis (CF) respiratory morbidity but their contribution to lung disease progression is poorly understood. We hypothesized that upon viral infection there is a deficient production of anti-viral neuropeptides (IFN-I and II) and interferon stimulated genes (ISGs) and an exaggerated pro-inflammatory response in CF. We therefore studied the anti-viral and inflammatory response of the CF airway epithelium upon infection with respiratory viruses.

**Methods:** Epithelial CF and non-CF cell lines (IBS-1/1−/−, UNCCFT2/ 1, UCNC2T, 16HBE14o−/CFBE14o−) and primary airway epithelial cells (nasal, bronchial) from CF patients and healthy controls were used in vitro studies. Epithelial cells were cultured and infected with respiratory viruses (RV-16, RV-1B, RSV) at a multiplicity of infection of 0.1. Viral replication was assessed using real-time (RT-)PCR and a luciferase assay. IFN (IFN-α- and -β-) mRNA expression and production were analyzed by RT-PCR and ELISA respectively. To study downstream signalling pathways RT-PCR was carried out to assess the induction of ISGs. Exogenous IFN-α (100 pg/ml) was added before and after virus infection. Cell viability was assessed by flow cytometry and LDH assay. Levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines (GRO-α, IL-6, IL-8, IP-10, MCP-1, RANTES) were measured by Multiplex Suspension Array Technique.
Results: Viral replication was significantly increased in airway epithelial CF compared to non-CF cells after infection. Examination of innate immune responses revealed profound impairment of virus-induced IFN production and ISG expression in CF airway cells. The addition of exogenous IFNs significantly reduced virus replication in infected CF cells by up-regulating IFN production and ISG expression. All respiratory viruses induced significantly increased cytokine releases, in both CF and non-CF airway epithelial cells. However, there was a marked trend towards lower cytokine production associated with increased cell death in CF cells.

Conclusion: Cystic fibrosis airway epithelial cells have a deficient innate immune response to viral infection, characterized by an impaired IFN production and ISG expression resulting in increased viral replication. Our results regarding the inflammatory response indicate a disturbed inflammatory response to viruses in the CF airway epithelium associated with increased cell death. Addition of exogenous IFNs, in particular of IFN-α, restores anti-viral pathways and virus control in cells. These mechanisms may contribute to the increased respiratory morbidity after virus infection in CF and suggest the potential use of IFNs in the treatment of virus-induced CF exacerbations.

References

Posters with short oral communication SSP/SGP

PED-P 1

Pancreatic fat fraction is increased in obese adolescents and associated with metabolic syndrome

Albane B.R. Maggio1, Pascal Mueller2, Julie Wacker3, Magalie Valiolo4, Dominique C. Belli5, Maurice Beghetti6, Nathalie J. Farpour-Lambert7, Valérie A. McLin8

1Pediatric sport medicine and obesity care program, Division of pediatric specialties, Department of Child and Adolescent, University Hospitals of Geneva; 2Pediatric Cardiology Unit, Division of pediatric specialties, Department of Child and Adolescent, University Hospitals of Geneva; 3Pediatric Gastroenterology Unit, Division of pediatric specialties, Department of Child and Adolescent, University Hospitals of Geneva

Aims of the study: Little is known about pancreatic fat accumulation and its possible associations with metabolic syndrome (MetS) and glucose metabolism. The aim of this study was to quantify pancreatic fat fraction (PFF) in lean and obese adolescents and explore its relationship with metabolic parameters.

Methods: This case-control study was conducted in a tertiary care center, where 25 lean and 24 obese adolescents were recruited. PFF and visceral fat (VAT) were determined using MRI. We measured blood pressure, fasting glucose, insulin, liver enzymes, leptin and lipids levels. Obese subjects underwent an oral glucose tolerance test.

Results: PFF was significantly higher in obese than lean subjects (4.8 ± 1.2 vs. 3.0 ± 0.9; p <.001) and was associated with VAT, BMI, gamma-GT, triglycerides, HDL-cholesterol, leptin concentrations, and MetS (p <0.05 for all). None of the obese subjects had glucose intolerance, but when adjusted for VAT, the following 3 parameters correlated negatively with PFF: fasting, 30 and 120-minute insulin levels. We divided subjects into 3 groups: I) lean without MetS; II) obese without MetS and III) obese with MetS and observed that PFF increased gradually among groups (I: 3.56 ± 0.88; II: 4.70 ± 1.06; III: 5.34 ± 1.49 %; p <.001).

Conclusion: Obese adolescents accumulate fat in the pancreas. PFF correlates with the presence of MetS. Even in absence of glucose intolerance, pancreatic fat deposition is associated with impaired insulin response to glucose overload. This suggests that beta-cell dysfunction is already present in non-diabetic obese adolescents, mimicking what has been shown in adults, and that pancreatic fat accumulation may participate in obesity-associated pancreatic endocrine dysfunction.

PED-P 2

Analysis of a program for risk and adverse event management used in a unit of pediatric hematology-oncology

L. Willemin1, E.R. Di Paolo2, M. Beck Popovic1

1Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Unit; 2Pharmacy department ; University Hospital CHUV (Centre universitaire hospitalier vaudois)

Introduction: The Medical Surgical Department of Pediatrics at the University Hospital CHUV started in 2005 a program for management of risks and adverse events in children receiving treatment within a database where adverse events observed in the department are reported and registered. The purpose of the current study is to analyze after 4 years

Results: I7 overexpression in mice leads to the spontaneous formation of TLOs in various non-lymphoid organs such as salivary gland and lung. The presence of LTI cells, naïve follicular B, T and dendritic cells in TLOs correlates with the specific expression of chemokines. Using various knockout mice we show that the development and the organization of TLO require the presence of lymphoxygen and LTI cells. Finally, the infection with Leishmania major triggers the de novo formation of ectopic lymph nodes in I7 tg but not in WT mice.

Conclusions: Altogether, we show that I7 regulates the development of TLO via LTI cells and secondly, that LTI, LTI cells and inflammation collaborate in de novo formation of ectopic LNs. It will be important to investigate whether targeting of LTI cells can modify chronic inflammation and TLO development in humans.
of use the incidents that came up in the pediatric hematology-oncology unit.

Methods: Announced events recorded between November 2005 and 2009 were analyzed. The evaluation of the listed adverse events was performed by characterization of medical errors based on the taxonomy of the NCC MERP (National Coordinating Council for Medication Errors Reporting and Prevention). The most relevant data were analyzed with descriptive statistics.

Results: There were 113 adverse events registered, among which 87 declared as drug errors in an in-patient setting. Thirty-seven out of 87 (43%) occurred during drug administration, 14/87 (16%) during transcription of medical orders and 10/87 (11%) during medical prescription. By order of frequency, errors of dosage were in the first position with 27/87 (31%) cases, followed by omission of drug doses in 18/87 (21%). In 12/87 (14%) cases, the error was due to an either wrong infusion rate or wrong technique of drug administration in 7/87 (8%) cases. The clinical consequences were mild in 73/87 (84%) cases and moderate in 9/87 (11%). The majority of the announced incidents are mostly minor drug errors which are by definition preventable. The majority of the announced events are in the context of pediatric drug administration or during drug transcription. Thus, the computerization of the drug treatments seems mandatory to avoid errors of prescription and transcription. There is need for a better training of the doctors in the declaration of errors committed and the information to be given to the families.

Conclusion: The majority of the announced incidents are mostly minor drug errors which are by definition preventable. The majority of events are in the context of pediatric drug administration or during drug transcription. Thus, the computerization of the drug treatments seems mandatory to avoid errors of prescription and transcription. There is need for a better training of the doctors in the declaration of errors committed and the information to be given to the families.

Posters with short oral communication SGP/SGP

PED-P 3

10 years follow-up in a series of children suspected or confirmed child abuse

Gérardine Troxler¹, Marie-Claude Hofner², Nicolas Lutz³

¹E接力nante en médecine de 6ème année à la Faculté de Médecine de Lausanne; ²Médecine associée, MER, Unité de médecine des violences, Centre Universitaire Romand de Médecine Légale, Lausanne; ³Unité de chirurgie pédiatrique, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois, Lausanne

Introduction: A 1999 epidemiological study of pediatric child abuse in the County of Vaud identified 17 pediatrics following 30 children with child abuse. Today, there is no safe sign in risk of being abused. A new study was performed 10 years later to review and update the data, assess the children’s outcome as well as the pediatrics experience with child abuse.

Methods: Data collection was done by a medical student for her master’s degree. Review of medical records, interviews and telephone calls with involved pediatrics were performed. Initial children’s demographic data, risk factors and type of child abuse, socio-economic context as well as legal issues were updated. Two semi-directive discussion scaffolds were used for pediatrics’ interviews.

Results: Follow-up information was obtained for 19 of the 30 children initially involved in the first study. A significant improvement of the situation was noted in 56% of the cases. Stable social and family contexts, as well as child abuse declared by the mother were associated with a favorable outcome. A familial conflict, frequent moves or social instability were aggravating factors. 13 pediatrics accepted the interviews. Once child abuse was suspected and revealed, the parents-doctor relationship was interrupted only in two cases. Following child abuse declaration, the main obstacles to adequate care by the pediatrics were a lack of feedback information and poor collaboration with the other institutions involved with the cases.

Conclusions: The parents’ doctor relationship is rarely lost following declaration of a suspected case of child abuse. Pediatricians have a pivotal position in detecting and treating children exposed to violence or abuse. Improved communication between the various institutions involved in the management of child abuse is necessary. A favorable outcome in more than half of the cases supported the time and efforts shared by the various care givers.

PED-P 4

Acceptance of two liquid vitamin D₃ formulations among Swiss mothers with newborn infants: a randomized, single-blind trial

Sebastiano A. G. Lava¹, Giorgio Caccia², Silvia Ostetti-Gianini³, Giacomo D. Simonetti⁴, Mattea Falesi⁵, Mario G. Blanchett⁶

¹Division of Pediatrics, Bellinzona and Mendrisio, and University of Bern, Switzerland; ²Division of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Mendrisio, Switzerland; ³Pediatric Nephrology, University Children’s Hospital Bern and University of Bern, Switzerland

Introduction: Swiss infants are prescribed vitamin D₃ during the first year of life. For this purpose liquid preparations are traditionally used, which contain vitamin D₃ dissolved in alcohol. Unfortunately, many families do not adhere to the recommendation.

Subjects and methods: The acceptance of the traditional vitamin D₃ preparation (alcoholic vitamin D₃) was compared with that of a new preparation, which contained vitamin D₃ dissolved in medium-chain triglycerides (oily vitamin D₃) in 42 healthy newborn infants (20 girls and 22 boys) aged between 2 and 7 days. Their neonatal body weight ranged between 2.225 and 4.150 kg and the gestational age between 36° and 41° weeks. The blinded mothers rated the facial reaction of their children by pointing on a facial hedonic scale. The comparison was not commercially supported.

Results: Thirty-eight of the 41 mothers, who brought the comparison to completion, assigned a better score to the oily vitamin D₃ with no difference in the remaining three cases (P<0.0001). The acceptance for the oily preparation was significantly better both among mothers whose baby was initially presented the alcoholic preparation and among mothers whose baby was initially presented the oily preparation. Furthermore, the acceptance for the oily preparation was better irrespective of gender of infant or parity of mother.

Conclusion: In children, appreciating the preference for drug preparations is crucial. From the perspective of mothers, Swiss newborns infants prefer the taste of the oily vitamin D₃ preparation over the alcoholic preparation.

PED-P 5

Infant lung function and subsequent respiratory morbidity during the first year of life in preterm infants

Elena Proietti¹,², Thomas Riedl³, Olivier Fuchs³, Isabelle Pramana¹, Philipp Latzin³, Urs Frey³

¹Department of Paediatrics, Bern University Hospital, Bern, Switzerland; ²University Children’s Hospital Basel (UKBB), Basel, Switzerland

Introduction: Compared to term-born infants, pretermers reveal more respiratory symptoms and alterations in lung function. We aimed to investigate whether in preterms lung function parameters obtained near term correlate with respiratory morbidity during the first year of life.

Methods: Lung function (tidal breathing flow-volume loops, multiple-breatwashout) was measured using an ultrasonic flowmeter in a cohort of N = 265 unsedated preterm infants at mean ± SD 44.9 ± 0.2 weeks of gestational age during natural sleep according to latest standards. The cohort included preterm infants (28% without, 22% with mild, 32% moderate, 16% severe BPD) selected randomly due to logistic constraints. We retrospectively assessed respiratory morbidity in the first year of life (wheeze, rehospitalisation, inhalation and oxygen therapy) using a standardized questionnaire (recall rate 70%). We computed uni- and multivariable logistic regression adjusted for known confounders.

Results: We found sporadic associations between lung function parameters and outcomes that reached statistical significance, but no clear overall relationship. The strongest association was found for TPTEF/TE e.g. with inhalation therapy: OR 0.92 CI 0.87–0.98.

Conclusion: In this cohort of preterm infant lung function tests performed without sedation do not result in additional benefit for the prediction of respiratory morbidity during the first year of life. Reasons for that might be the pre-selected cohort, the limitations of retrospective assessment of symptoms or the large variability of the lung function measurements reflecting the clinical status.

PED-P 6

The Swiss Paediatric Renal Registry (SPRR): 1970–2010

Elisabeth Maurer¹, Claudia Kuehn², Caroline Heff³, Béatrice Schnarwyler¹, Ernst Leuchtmann¹, Eric Girardin¹, Christoph Rudin¹, Giacomo Simonetti¹, Thomas J. Neuhaus⁴, Guido F. Laube⁵ for the Swiss Paediatric Nephrology Group (SAPN)

¹Dept. of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Bern; ²Paediatric Practice, Yverdon-les-Bains; ³University Children’s Hospital, Zurich; ⁴University Children’s Hospital, Geneva and Lausanne; ⁵University Children’s Hospital, Basel; ⁶Paediatric Department, Kantonsspital Luzern

Purpose: End-stage renal failure in children is a rare but severe condition. In order to optimize management and surveillance of long-term follow-up, centralized registration of these patients is essential. We describe the Swiss Paediatric Renal Registry (SPRR).

Methods: Data collection started in 1970 at the University Children’s Hospital Zurich and was extended to form the SPRR in 1980. Since 2006, the database is located at the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine in Berne. In 2009 collaboration was established with the European registry of the European Society for Paediatric Nephrology (ESPN), included were children and adolescents undergoing dialysis for more than 3 months and/or renal transplantation (TPL). Main data collected were primary renal disease,
concomitant diseases, demographic data, laboratory values, treatment and long-term outcome. Data were annually collected by a central data manager visiting all centres.

Results: From 1970–2008, 432 patients were registered (11.4 patients per year). Median age at diagnosis of primary diseases were renal dysplasia (16%), hypoplasia (10%), focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (10%), nephronophthisis (8%), other hereditary nephropathies (8%) and hemolytic uremic syndrome (7%). Treatment consisted of (1) dialysis (564 times), (2) TPL (354 patients; living donation: n = 241 (68%), cadaveric donation: n = 113 (32%); preemptive TPL: n = 60 (14% of all TPL)). Seventy-one of all registered patients (16%) died.

Conclusion: This national registry is a valuable and important resource for national surveillance of incidence, treatment and long-term outcome in children and adolescents with end stage renal failure. Furthermore provision is given to compare data with other countries and to collaborate in international research projects.

Optimization of diagnosis of urinary tract infection in children

C. Relly1, G. Stauber3, D. Nadal2, C. Berger1
Division of Infectious Diseases2, Emergency Department2, University Childrens Hospital, Zurich

Introduction: Urinary tract infections (UTI) are among the most frequent bacterial infections and a frequent cause of fever in children. Urine sampling technique and, most importantly, interpretation of leukocyturia optimizes diagnosis of UTI in children and has the potential to reduce unnecessary antimicrobial treatment and follow-up investigations.

Frequent bacterial infections and a frequent cause of fever in children.

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Results plus sampling technique were compared in children with and without UTI.

Results: Among 275 children (166 girls) with a median age of 10 months (range, 7 days – 17 years) a UTI was present in 65 children (24%). Overall, urine was collected by catheterization in 169 (58%) months (range, 7 days – 17 years) a UTI was present in 65 children (24%). Overall, urine was collected by catheterization in 169 (58%)

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Results: (Significance vs baseline: *p <0.05 **p <0.01 ***p <0.005)

A significant decrease of insulin sensitivity was measured after 1 year of GH treatment and persisted thereafter. Glucose tolerance became borderline at most in only few cases.

Conclusion: In SGA children treated with GH, insulin sensitivity decreases rapidly but fortunately it does not worsen with increasing treatment duration.

Skin disorders encountered in a Swiss pediatric emergency department

Brigitte Landolt1, Georg Stauber1, Ulrich Lips1, Lisa Weber1,2,3
1Division of Dermatology, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 2Emergency Department, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 3Department of Dermatology, University Hospital Zurich; 4Pediatric Department, City Hospital Triemli, Zurich

Background: Skin disorders are commonly seen in pediatric emergency departments (PED) and may cause diagnostic difficulties. We aimed to evaluate the frequency and spectrum of skin disorders in an urban PED at a Swiss University Hospital and the need for dermatological advice.

Methods: The medical records of all patients attending the PED were analyzed. Results: The most common skin disorders were skin infections (63%), followed by acne (34%) and eczema (21%). The most frequent diagnostic difficulties were atopic dermatitis (18%), acne (12%) and infection of a skin abscess (12%).

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during the first 10 days of each month over a 1-year period (total 120 days) were retrospectively analyzed. The dermatological findings were evaluated regarding their incidence, patient age and gender, way of referral, diagnosis, frequency of dermatology review, treatment and hospitalization. A questionnaire completed by the PED doctors additionally assessed the need for dermatology support. Results: In 1572 (17.4%) of the 9041 attendances skin findings were recorded. The predominant problem was the need for the PED doctors estimate that 42.9%. followed by skin infections (31.8%), physically induced skin lesions (19.9%) and congenital disorders (2.3%). Viral exanthema was the most common diagnosis (13.1%), followed by agenital dermatitis (7.7%), gingivostomatitis (7.1%), petechiae (6.4%), burns (6.0%), urticaria (5.0%) and insect bite reactions (5.0%). Eighty-one (5.2%) of the patients with skin conditions were hospitalized. The PED doctors estimate that a dermatological advice in 25% of the patients with skin findings. Conclusions: This study shows a high frequency, broad spectrum and diagnostic difficulties of pediatric emergency skin conditions. We highlight the need for improved educational measures and a closer collaboration between the two specialties for the benefit of these children.

Haemoglobinopathies in Cambodia

F. Stoller, K. Zurbiggen, O. Speer, D. Laurent, B. Richner, M. Schmugge
Universitätspädiatrische Klinik, Kantha Bopha Hospitals, Cambodia

Background: Thalassemia and other hemoglobinopathies are a common cause for anaemia in Southeast Asia. As in many developing countries insufficient data exist about the prevalence and morbidity caused by haemoglobinopathies in Cambodia. Since 1991, with the help of donations from Switzerland and other countries along with the support of Cambodian authorities Kantha Bopha hospitals provides specialised paediatric care to a majority of Cambodian children. In order to validate the laboratory diagnosis and to generate data about the presentation of haemoglobinopathies, we analyzed blood samples from patients admitted to the Kantha Bopha hospitals.

Methods: Initial screening for anaemia and haemoglobinopathies was performed locally (Kantha Bopha and Pasteur Institute, Phnom Penh). Blood samples on filterpaper were shipped to our laboratory. We screened for the three most common Southeast Asian α-thalassemias and, for the presence of β-thalassemia we sequenced the β-globin gene.

Results: Between March and July 2010 we analyzed samples from 53 children. While in three of 15 cases compound Haemoglobin E-Thalassemia was diagnosed, no haemoglobinopathies were diagnosed accurately. α-globin mutations were found in 10 children (5 children with HbH disease and 5 samples with a single heterozygous α-globin mutation) in 12 children (and in nearly 45% of compound HbE-αThalassaemia) a Hb-level below 5 g/dl was found.

Discussion: Severe anaemia was found in a significant proportion of children. Although an accurate diagnostic work up was performed compound thalassaemia-HbE were missed in a small proportion. No β-thalassemia major was found and it is unclear if these children do not survive. In addition a relatively low incidence of α-thalassemia was found with a few children with HbH-beta disease presenting with a rather mild anaemia. Further studies are required to define the prevalence of haemoglobinopathies in Cambodia, to find treatments for severely anaemic children and to better characterize the aetiology of anaemia in children without haemoglobinopathies.

Tetanus vaccination status in refugee children in Geneva, Switzerland

I. Garcia de la Fuente¹, N. Wagner¹, C.A. Siegrist², K.M. Postay-Barbe³
¹Division of General Paediatrics; ²Center for Vaccinology and Neonatal Immunology, University of Geneva. University Hospital of Geneva

Background: data on tetanus vaccination coverage in recently arrived refugee children in Switzerland are missing, and are essential to formulate vaccination strategies.

Materials and methods: we retrospectively collected data from refugee children followed in our hospital for general care. Tetanus antibodies were measured by ELISA either at arrival or one month after booster vaccination, according to local recommendations.

Table 1

<table>
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<th>500–1000 U/l</th>
<th>1000–10000 U/l</th>
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Results: 92 children were evaluated between January 2009 and May 2010. Most were from Eastern Europe and Africa. According to reported history, only 30% were up-to-date with their vaccination at arrival, and only 4% had available vaccination records. Antibody levels against tetanus were measured at baseline in 13 patients, and after booster vaccination in 55 children. Few patients (6% of the total children, 15% at baseline, and 36% post-booster) were insufficiently immunized despite prior reported tetanus vaccination in their own country. Measuring antibody levels after booster vaccination saved children, in average, from two unnecessary additional vaccines.

Conclusion: Immunologically proven protection against tetanus in refugee children is heterogeneous, but most children in our study are sufficiently immunized. Vaccine-related antibody measurement allows individual tailoring of vaccine schedules and avoids risk of hyperimmunization.

Therapeutic hypothermia in term infants with perinatal encephalopathy: the last 5 years in Switzerland

G. Ramos¹, B. Bretschii, B. Latal³, V. Bernet³, B. Wagnern, C. Hageman⁴, on behalf of the Swiss Neonatal Network
¹Klinik für Neonatologie, USZ Zürich; ²Abteilung für Intensivmedizin und Neonatologie, Kinderspital Zürich; ³Entwicklungspädiatrie, Kinderspital Zürich; ⁴Abteilung für pädiatrische Intensivbehandlung, Kinderspital Bern

Background: Therapeutic hypothermia (TH) following perinatal hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy in term or near-term infants improves mortality and neurodevelopmental outcome (1). In Europe most neonatal units perform active cooling using cooling devices such as water mattresses, in Switzerland, however, passive cooling is predominantly used.

Aims: To evaluate the temperature variation between different cooling methods used in Switzerland and to assess how neuromonitoring is provided compared to other European neonatal centres.

Methods: All notes of infants with perinatal encephalopathy who underwent TH between March 2005 and August 2010 were retrospectively reviewed. Cooling techniques included cooling devices such as cooling mattresses or cooling wraps. Passive cooling technique was defined if natural cooling was performed by turning off all heating systems. Passive cooling technique in combination with gel packs or ice was defined if in addition to natural cooling gel or ice packs were added.

Results: A total of 150 infants with median (range) gestational age of 39 (35–42) and median birth weight of 3269 (1990–4920 g) were cooled. 109 (73.6%) infants were born and 28 (18.9%) infants died due to perinatal asphyxia. Active cooling was performed in 27 (18.2%) infants, 87 (58.8%) infants were cooled passively in combination with gel packs or ice and 34 (23%) infants were cooled passively. There was a significant difference between the three cooling methods in terms of temperature variation over time. Passive cooling had a significant higher variation of temperature (SD of 0.88) than both passive and cold packs (SD of 0.78) and active cooling (SD of 0.73). aEEG before TH was obtained in 35.8% and 86.5% had a full EEG. At least one cranial ultrasound was performed in 95.3% and MRI was performed in 62.2% of the infants.

Conclusion: Target temperature can be achieved with all three cooling methods, however passive cooling seems to have the highest variation of temperature. Continuous neuromonitoring should be improved.

1 Edwards AD, BMJ 2010; 340:c363
Medical conditions in immigrant children in Geneva, Switzerland

N. Wagner1, J. Garcia de la Fuente1, K.M. Postay-Barbe1
1Division of General Paediatrics, Department of Paediatrics, University Hospitals of Geneva

Background: Because of poor medical follow-up in their own country, high exposure to infectious diseases, confrontation with war, violence, and exile, refugee children are at higher risk of physical illness and psychological difficulties. We analyzed the medical conditions of immigrant children in Geneva.

Materials and methods: We retrospectively collected data from recently immigrated children who were followed in our hospital for general pediatric care. Past medical history, physical examination, tuberculin test (Mantoux test, which was followed by chest X-ray and interferon gamma assay if positive), and parasites screening in stool samples were reviewed.

Results: 92 paediatric patients aged 6 months to 16 years old (median age 4.7 years) were evaluated between January 2009 and May 2010. Most were from Eastern Europe (45%). 13 patients (14%) had a positive Mantoux test. Amongst those, 3 were diagnosed with latent tuberculosis and 2 with active tuberculosis. The most frequent other infectious diseases were cutaneous infections (tinea, pediculosis, impetigo, etc.), detected in 5.7% of patients. Intestinal parasitosis were found in 76% of patients (mainly Giardia lamblia). The main non infectious medical conditions were dental cavities, and psychological difficulties (eating, sleeping problems and anxiety disorders) in respectively 42% and 32% of the patients.

Conclusion: The general physical health condition of refugee children in Switzerland seems acceptable. However, tuberculosis remains highly prevalent in this population. Detection of intestinal parasitosis, dental cavities, and psychological difficulties should be improved.

Guillain-Barré syndrome and adjuvanted pandemic influenza A (H1N1) 2009 vaccines – a multinational case control study in Europe

1Department of Medical Informatics, Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands; 2Department of Pharmacy & Pharmacology, University of Bath, Bath; 3Health Protection Agency, London, UK; 4Statens Serum Institut, Copenhagen, Denmark; 5Pharmacoepidemiology Research Team, Inserm U1027, University of Paris; 6Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden; 7Stockholm University; 8RIVM, Bilthoven; 9Departments of Neurology and Immunology, Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands; 10European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Stockholm, Sweden; 11Brighton Collaboration; 12Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Vaccines, University Children’s Hospital Basel, Basel, Switzerland

Aim: To investigate a potential association of the 2009 pandemic influenza A (H1N1) with Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS).

Methods: Case-control study between November 2009 and March 2010 using a case-control study in Europe

References: 13 patients (14%) had a positive Mantoux test. Amongst those, 3 were diagnosed with latent tuberculosis and 2 with active tuberculosis. The most frequent other infectious diseases were cutaneous infections (tinea, pediculosis, impetigo, etc.), detected in 5.7% of patients. Intestinal parasitosis were found in 76% of patients (mainly Giardia lamblia). The main non infectious medical conditions were dental cavities, and psychological difficulties (eating, sleeping problems and anxiety disorders) in respectively 42% and 32% of the patients.

Conclusion: The general physical health condition of refugee children in Switzerland seems acceptable. However, tuberculosis remains highly prevalent in this population. Detection of intestinal parasitosis, dental cavities, and psychological difficulties should be improved.

Procalcitonin Guidance To Reduce Antibiotic Treatment Of Children With Lower Respiratory Tract Infection – The Propaed Study

J. Bonhoeffer1, G. Baer1, P. Baumann1, M. Buettcher2, J. Schaefler3, G. Berthet4, H.C. Bucher1
1Univ. Children’s Hosp. Basel, Basel, Basel, Switzerland; 2Kantonsspital Aarau, Basel, Switzerland; 3Basel Institute for Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Basel, Switzerland

Abstract: Background: Clinical trials in adults have shown that procalcitonin (PCT) guided antibiotic (AB) treatment of lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI) markedly reduces AB use. We investigated whether this applies to children as well.

Methods: Previously healthy children, 1 mo to 18 yrs, presenting with LRTI to emergency units of two pediatric tertiary care hospitals in Switzerland between 01/2009 and 02/2010 were randomized to AB treatment according to internationally recognized guidelines or PCT guided treatment. In an intention-to-treat complete case analysis, logistic regression was used for AB exposure within 14 days of randomization (primary endpoint) and the combined safety endpoint of complications or disease specific failure, and linear regression for the cumulative AB treatment duration (secondary endpoint).

Results: Of 337 children with LRTI with mean age 3.8 yrs (range 0.1–17.5), 60.2% were hospitalized. The odds ratio (OR) for AB use in the PCT group was 1.26 (95% CI 0.81–1.95) and for the combined safety endpoint 0.81 (95% CI 0.45–1.46). In patients without community acquired pneumonia (CAP) the OR for AB use under PCT guidance was 2.34 (95% CI 1.24–4.49). There was evidence that PCT guidance had a different effect in CAP patients (OR 0.21; 95% CI 0.07–0.56). The OR in CAP patients was 0.48 (95% CI 0.22–1.03). PCT guidance reduced the mean cumulative duration of AB treatment by 4.11 days (95% CI 0.03–0.08).

Conclusions: PCT guided treatment of LRTI overall was not shown to reduce AB prescription rates but in children with CAP PCT guidance may reduce AB prescription rates. If antibiotics are prescribed, PCT guidance reduces the duration of AB exposure.

Effects of multiprofessional group therapy on health-related quality of life, mental health status, and eating behaviour in overweight children

A. Zumbrunn1, M. Boller1, N. Oehninger2, E. Kirchhoff2, N. Farpour-Lambert3, R. Tham4, T. Sempacher5, D. Allemand6
1FOPH grant #08.004211/2004.0011-629
FHNW-HSA, Olten; 2Child Psychiatric Clinic, University Basel; 3Ostschweizer Kinder- und Jugendalterak, St. Gallen; 4Fachverband Adipositas im Kindes- und Jugendalter, Aarau, Basel, Switzerland; 5Department of Neurology – the Propaed Study

Abstract: The high prevalence of obesity in children warrants continued public health attention. The purpose of this analysis was to show the effects of standardized multiprofessional group therapy on health-related quality of life, mental health status and eating habits in overweight children and adolescents.

Methods and Results: We present here data of 342 children (12.2 ± 2.2 years) of the ongoing national multi-centre cohort study, collected between 03/2009 and 12/2010 in 22 certified programs in Switzerland. The primary outcome was change in BMI-SDS; secondary outcomes were improvements of health related quality of life (HRQOL measured by Kidscreen 52), mental health problems (SDQ) and eating behaviour (AD-EVA) after one year (T2). At T0, HRQOL of overweight children was significantly worse than in healthy Swiss peers except for school environment; notably physical well-being, self-awareness and social acceptance by peers (p <0.001) were impaired. Furthermore, obese children had much higher rates of emotional and behavioral problems at T0 (38.2%) than normative references (10%). Mean change in BMI-SDS from baseline was -0.19 ± 0.36 (p <0.001). Until T2, significant improvements of HRQOL were found for physical and mental well-being, mood, positive self-awareness, autonomy and social acceptance by peers (p <0.01). Emotional and behavioural difficulties decreased by half (17.6%). In comparison to the references, study participants showed higher mean (p <0.01) for craving and compulsive overeating, emotional eating, and preoccupation with weight and shape which improved significantly during therapy (p <0.01), with the exception of emotional eating. Preclinical eating disorders, e.g. purging to control weight were rare at T0 and T2 and not different from healthy peers.

Conclusion: Mental health and quality of life are often impaired in overweight children and can be improved by multiprofessional group therapy, as does the degree of adiposity. Improvements in psycho-social functioning are thought to be pre-requisites to sustain a healthy lifestyle and a beneficial weight in the long term. Health professionals should also take into account mental health care in overweight children and adolescents.
Epidemiology of Uveitis in Children over a 10 years period
Lydia Clarke*, Yan Guex-Crosier†, Michael Hofer*
*Pediatric rheumatology Romande, DMCP, CHUV, Lausanne and HUG, Genève; †Unité d’immuno-inflammation oculaire, Hôpital Ophtalmique Jules Gonin, Lausanne

Introduction: Uveitis is an inflammation of the vascular tunic of the eye (uvea), usually idiopathic, infectious or related to a rheumatologic disease. In children it is a responsible for more than 17% of unilateral legal blindness.

Purpose: To investigate the distribution, clinical features, complications and loss of visual acuity in pediatric uveitis in the French speaking part of Switzerland treated according to a multidisciplinary approach.

Methods: Retrospective cohort study of all patients diagnosed with uveitis under the age of 16 years presenting to two tertiary referral centres in Lausanne (uveitis and pediatric rheumatology clinics), between 2000 and 2009.

Results: 79 children (37 girls) were identified, 62 lived in Switzerland, 11 in Italy. Mean age at first symptoms was 9.0 years (1.5–15.8 years) with a mean follow-up time of 1.9 years (0–8 years); 51 had involvement of both eyes (64.6%). The course was acute in 26.5%, chronic in 51.9%, recurrent in 8.9% and not specified in 12.7%. Anterior uveitis occurred in 40.5%, intermediate in 32.9%, posterior in 25.3% and panuveitis in 6.3%. The three main diagnoses were idiopathic uveitis (34.2%), juvenile idiopathic arthritis-related (22.8%) and toxoplasmosis (15.2%). More than half of the patients was treated with systemic therapies: corticosteroids 39, methotrexate 17, azathioprine 11, cyclosporine 4 and biotherapies 13. The visual acuity of most patients remained stable (37.5%), or improved (36.3%) during the follow-up. Only 7.5% eyes had a loss of visual acuity (one or more lines) during the follow-up. 26.3% patients presented one or more ocular complications. The two commonest were cataract (12.5%) and ocular hypertension (10%).

Conclusion: Our patients show a better visual outcome than previously published cohorts. Thus, early recognition and prompt and aggressive treatment are essential to reduce the rate of complications and improve the visual outcome. Collaboration between ophthalmologists and rheumatologists enables a better management of systemic treatments and prompt access to immunosuppressive agents and biotherapies.

Is an early onset of anorexia a factor of poor prognosis?

Introduction: Young adolescents suffering from anorexia nervosa remain a big challenge for child psychiatrists and pediatricians. An early onset of the disease is sometimes associated with poor prognosis.

Methods: The aim of this study was to evaluate the outcome of female adolescents affected by anorexia nervosa before the age of 16 and treated at the Children’s Hospital of Geneva between 1997 and 2006. Standardized interviews based on the Morgan Russell scale were used to evaluate somatic, social and psychological outcome.

Results: Among 63 patients initially enrolled in this study, 33 young women were finally interviewed. No differences regarding the age of onset, the initial body mass index (BMI), the medical complications and the duration of follow-up were found between the patients who were interviewed and those who weren't. The outcome among the 33 patients (average age of 14.4 at diagnosis and at 66 months follow-up) was globally good. No cases of death were registered. However, 21.2% had a poor outcome and nearly 50% of the cohort still experienced psychological problems. Those who had an early onset of anorexia, i.e. before the age of 14, had a significantly better outcome, as well as those who had a higher initial BMI.

Conclusions: Our results emphasize the need for detecting and treating young adolescents with anorexia as fast as possible, before they lose too much weight.

Characteristics epidemiologic, clinical, paraclinic and etiologic of the nonparalytic frontal axial deviations of the knee in children
Fiogbe M.A.1, Oubenou S.A.2, Sossou R.1, Koura A.1
1*Clinique Universitaire de Chirurgie Pédiatrique, Centre National Hospitalier Universitaire de Cotonou, Avenue Jean Paul II, 01 BP 386 Cotonou; 2*Service de Chirurgie Pédiatrique, Hôpital de la Mère et de l’Enfant Lagune (HOMEL), 01 BP 107 Cotonou, Tél. (229) 21 31 31 28; 4*Service de Radiologie, Hôpital de la Mère et de l’Enfant Lagune (HOMEL), 01 BP 107 Cotonou, Tél. (229) 21 31 31 28

Introduction: The study aimed to analyze the characteristics epidemiologic, clinical, paraclinic and etiologic of the frontal axial deviations of the knee in children.

Material and method: It is about an exploratory study, led January 2008 to December 2008 and concerned the townsmen children from 0 to 15 years.

Results: On 65 children retained for this study, 39 were infants, 22 were old 2 years and half at 5 years and 4 5-years-old children to 15 years, with an average age of 2 years 8 months. 43 patients were male (66.2%) and 22 were female (33.8%). The sex-ratio was 1.95. The socio-economic level of the parents was high in 23%, means in 70.8% and low in 6.2%. 43.08% of the children were exposed little to the solar rays. Gen varum was the head with 63.08%, follow-ups by genu varum, gen varum, the 4th degree according to LADITAN and 85.71% at the stage II of BATESON. The deviations were idiopathic in 43.08% of the cases and rachitics in 40% of the cases. The phosphocalcic perturbation was frequently abnormal and consisted of a hypocalcemia, a hypophosphatemia, a hypoproteinemia and an alkaline hyperphosphatasmey.

Conclusion: Deviations of the knee, as a sequel to rickets; they are associated with lack of sunlight and, and significant relationship between those deformity and phosphocalcic perturbation.

Key words: Gen varum, genu valgum, etiology.
Vitamin D is related to pancreatic fat fraction and insulin concentration in obese adolescents

Albane B.R. Maggio1, Pascal Mueller2, Julie Wacker3, Magalie Viallor3, Dominique C. Belli4, Nathalie J. Farpour-Lambert4, Maurice Béghetti1, Valérie A. McLaren5

1Pediatric sport medicine and obesity care program, Division of pediatric specialties, Department of Child and Adolescent, University Hospitals of Geneva; 2Pediatric Gastroenterology Unit, Ostschweizer Kinderklinik, St.Gallen, Switzerland; 3Pediatric Radiology Unit, Division of pediatric specialties, Department of Child and Adolescent, University Hospitals of Geneva; 4Pediatric Gastroenterology Unit, Division of pediatric specialties, Department of Child and Adolescent, University Hospitals of Geneva; 5Pediatric Gastroenterology Unit, Ostschweizer Kinderklinik, St.Gallen, Switzerland

**Aim of the study:** The role of vitamin D in the development of type 2 diabetes (T2DM) has been described in adults. Pancreatic fat fraction (PFF) appears to be related to the development of impaired insulin secretion in obese adolescents. Vitamin D is known to be decreased in obese adolescents and is associated with considerable perinatal mortality and morbidity.

**Methods:** We recruited 25 lean and 24 obese adolescents (mean age 13.6 ± 1.5 yrs). Pancreatic fat fraction (PFF) and visceral adipose tissue (VAT) were determined using MRI. We measured 25-OH vitamin D, fasting glucose, insulin, leptin and lipids levels. Obese subjects underwent an oral glucose tolerance test.

**Results:** Vitamin D in obese adolescents was significantly different between lean and obese subjects (18.5 ± 7.4 vs. 9.9 ± 6.4, p < 0.001). As vitamin D was strongly related to VAT, we performed linear and multiple regressions adjusted for this variable. Results showed that vitamin D was only associated with PFF (R2-change: 0.061, p = 0.039). In obese subjects vitamin D was related to fasting insulin (R2-change: 0.261, p = 0.007), HOMA-IR (R2-change: 0.215, p = 0.0017) and leptin. For VAT, R2-change was 0.358, p = 0.001. In lean controls vitamin D was only related to serum ALT (R2-change: 0.241, p = 0.011) but not to PFF or insulin level.

**Conclusion:** Vitamin D concentration is very low in obese adolescents probably due to its accumulation in visceral adipose tissue. Obese adolescents with the lowest vitamin D concentration show the highest pancreatic fat deposition and the lowest fasting insulin level. These findings suggest a novel mechanism for the development of obesity-related glucose intolerance.
significant reduced NO-induced relaxation, as well as a lower PKG protein relative content compared to controls.

Conclusion: Umbilical vessels relaxation is impaired in growth

restricted newborns. The observed defect in PKG protein expression probably contributes to the altered relaxation and could serve as potential target for further therapeutic interventions.

Post-streptococcal reactive polymyalgia in a 13-year-old girl: a case report
Kathi Eberhardt, Diana Reppucci, Gerald Berthet
Kinderklinik, Kantonsspital Aarau

Introduction: Polymyalgia due to acute poststreptococcal infection has been rarely described. Tenderness of skeletal muscles without any signs of arthritis can last for several weeks up to months. The diagnosis is good and selflimiting without any residuum. Treatment is symptomatic with NSAAR, rarely Glucocorticoids.

Clinical Presentation: A 13-year-old girl was admitted to our hospital suffering from severe symmetrical myalgia of thighs, shoulder girdle muscles and backpain. She was completely immobilized or walked inclinative. Two weeks earlier she was treated with oral penicillin for 10 days for acute streptococcal tonsillitis. Physical examination showed marked tenderness of muscles. CRP (28 mg/l) and ESR (46 mm/1h) were slightly elevated. Leucocyte count and creatine kinase were normal. Echocardiography ruled out an osteomyelitis, but a fracture or infarction of small spondylodiscitis conventional radiologic examinations and MRI were performed which turned out normal. Borrelia burgdorferi antibodies were positive for IgM and negative for IgG. Therefore doxycycline was started. After 2 weeks of therapy our patient showed no significant improvement, the ESR was still elevated (40 mm/1h) and there was no seroconversion (Borrelia-IgM and -IgG negative). Therefore we suspected a poststreptococcal reactive polymyalgia which was confirmed by elevated antistreptolysin O (ASO) titre 326 IU/ml (normal <200 IU/ml). Paracetamol and diclofenac were prescribed. One month later her thighs were less painful, she could walk again without any help and restarted normal activity. Five months after hospitalization the patient had no muscle pain and showed normal life activity including sports without any further drug treatment. ESR decreased slightly (39mm/1h) but was still elevated.

Conclusion: Polymyalgia resulting from acute streptococcal infection should be considered as a possible diagnosis in patients with severe chronic pain, persistent elevated ESR and normal values of creatine kinase.

Acute interstitial nephritis (AIN) due to Diclofenac in an adolescent with acute rheumatic fever
Caviezel C, Berthet G
Kinderklinik, Kantonsspital Aarau

Introduction: Drug induced AIN is characterized by an idiiosyncratic acute renal failure after exposure to certain drugs like NSAAR, antibiotics, antiepileptic drugs, diuretics or others. Approximately 85% of AIN are drug induced, whereas the rest is either infectious, idiopathic or systemic diseases associated with glomerular infiltration of the kidney. AIN results in an oliguric or non-oliguric renal failure within days to weeks after exposure. The role of steroid treatment in AIN is still controversial.

Case presentation: 13-year-old male adolescent who presented in the emergency room with signs and symptoms of acute rheumatic fever. Fulfiling the Jones criteria the diagnosis was confirmed: two major criteria (endocarditis, polyarthritis) and three minor criteria (fever, increased ESR and CRP, long PR interval). The antistreptolysin O titer was 2160 U/ml and the antistrept-DNase B titer was 447 U/ml. He subsequently was treated with diclofenac, a cyclo-oxygenase inhibitor, and penicillin. From day 3 of treatment, we observed increasing microscopic hematuria (max. 322 Ec/ul), glucosuria (while normal blood glucose levels), proteinuria and cell casts (white cell and red cell) as well as a sterile leucocyturia (max. 322 Ec/ul). Urinary protein/creatinine ratio was increased to 218 mg/mmol (normal <25 mg/mmol), serum creatinine remained normal as arterial blood pressure. Diclofenac was stopped and treatment was switched to prednisone, which resulted in rapid normalization of the urinary findings within one week.

Conclusion: AIN can be diagnosed by monitoring urine parameters closely. After cessation of the probably causing agent (diclofenac) and steroid treatment the patient showed rapid and complete remission. Alternatively penicillin could provoke AIN but obviously not in our patient. Diclofenac was needed for biopsy because our patient never showed signs of renal failure.

Biocard® Celiac-test: a simple and reliable screening test for celiac disease
Jessica Ezri1, Rossana Helbling Garzoni2, Philippe Mathys3, Pedro Manuel Marques-Vidal4, Leslie Moros5, Andreas Nydegger6
1Department of Pediatrics, Gastroenterology Unit, University Hospital, Lausanne; 2Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine, Lausanne

Background: Celiac disease (CD) is a genetically determined autoimmune enteropathy characterized by lifelong gluten intolerance. Including silent forms, its prevalence reaches 1/131 in Switzerland, but still remains undiagnosed in a large number of patients. The gold standard for diagnosis remains small intestinal biopsies, showing villous atrophy, crypt hyperplasia and intraepithelial lymphocytosis. However, standard serological testing including total IgA and anti-transglutaminase IgA (anti-TTG IgA) is usually performed as first step screening in children with typical symptoms of CD or failure to thrive. The aim of our study was to perform standard serological test and a newly available capillary rapid test (Biocard® Celiac-test) and to compare with small intestinal biopsies (gold standard).

Patients and methods: Fifty-nine patients (median age 6.6y, range 10m – 16.4y; 19 boys, 40 girls) with suspicion of CD (typical symptoms, failure to thrive, positive standard serological test, or decreased total IgA) underwent duodenal biopsies and Biocard® Celiac-test from April 2009 to April 2011.

Results: Small intestinal biopsies from 33 patients (55.9%) showed villous atrophy, confirming CD. All of them had increased standard serological test and 28 (84.8%) had positive Biocard® Celiac-test. Biopsies were normal in 26 patients (41.1%). Eleven of them (42.3%) had increased standard serological test and one of them had a positive Biocard® Celiac-test (3.7%). The Biocard® Celiac-test and standard serological test respectively had a sensitivity of 84.8% and 100%, specificity of 96.2% and 57.7%, a positive predictive value of 96.6% and 75.0%, and a negative predictive value of 83.3% and 100%, compared to small intestinal biopsies. Biocard® Celiac-test appears to be a simple, cheap and reliable screening test for CD, in order to determine if small intestinal biopsies are required. It can easily be performed by pediatricians and generalists in private practice, with a very small amount of capillary blood.

Methotrexate neurotoxicity with stroke-like syndrome – a case report
Voeicer T, Tinner E.M., Martin F, Angst R
Kinderklinik, Kantonsspital Aarau

Introduction: Methotrexate (MTX) is a folic acid antagonist and as an antimitabolite it is used to treat patients with a variety of autoimmune and neoplastic disorders. It is an important agent used in acute leukemia to treat CNS disease and prevent CNS relapse. MTX toxicity, especially acute toxicity, is a common side effect and in high-dose MTX i.v. treatments, the antidi folic acid needs to be used to prevent life threatening complications. Recently, triple intracerehal chemotherapy with cytarabine and prednisone has been introduced into the German AML-BFM 2004 protocol to prevent CNS relapse. We present the case of a 14 year old girl with high risk acute myeloid leukemia (AML), FAB M1, who suffered from subacute MTX neurotoxicity 10 days after receiving her fourth dose of intracerehal MTX.

Case report: On the tenth day after receiving her last intracerehal chemotherapy of the AI/2-CD A protocol (MTX, cytarabine and prednisolone), she suddenly developed left-sided motor hemiparesis with brachiofacial emphasis and anaesthesia. We performed a cranial MRI within two hours after onset of the symptoms. There were no signs of cerebral ischemia, haemorrhage or infectious encephalitis. Doppler sonography of the cranial vessels was normal and no thrombi were detected in echocardiography. An EEG showed focal slowing over the right fronto-parietal lobe. Since subacute MTX neurotoxicity can present as a stroke-like syndrome, we subsequently treated the girl with oral dextromethorphan, a NMDA-receptor antagonist, for a total of 14 days. A second cranial MRI, 29 hours after the first one, showed bihemispheric changes in the diffusion-weighted images typical for MTX neurotoxicity. There was an impressive amelioration of the neurologic symptoms within the first 72 hours after the onset and complete resolution within three weeks.

Discussion: Methotrexate neurotoxicity is not an uncommon adverse effect in patients under intensified chemotherapy with high-dose i.v. and/or intracerehal MTX, which can present as stroke-like syndrome or leukencephalopathy. Dextromethorphan can be an effective treatment of subacute MTX neurotoxicity. This confirms the role of excessive NMDA receptor stimulation in the pathogenesis.
Lipschutz genital ulceration

Broquet Ducret C.1, Lechenne M.2, Terrier P.1, Chevénement Villana M.-J.2
1Service de pédiatrie, Hôpital du Jura, Delémont; 2Service de gynécologie et obstétrique, Hôpital du Jura, Delémont

Introduction: The Lipschutz genital ulceration is a rare and little-known disease for the pediatrician and also for the gynecologist.

Clinical presentation: We present the clinical history of a young girl with genital ulcer, without found STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases). This patient presents a good evolution with a symptomatic treatment.

Lipschutz disease: This pathology is rare, affecting mainly virgin girls. It can be associated over the EBV infection and may be one of the occult symptoms of Salmonella infection. The differential diagnoses include major STDs and aphthous diseases (for example Behçet's disease). The onset is abrupt with pain and fever. The ulcer is a punched-out lesion, with a red border and a fibrino-purulent membrane, more often localized on the internal face of the labium minus. General signs can be present or not.

The evolution is spontaneously favorable and non-recurring. Local disinfection and analgesics are the only treatment necessary, with sometimes antibiotics for the possible secondary infection.

Conclusion: The diagnostic of Lipschutz's disease can be suggested for every genital ulcer, once aphthous diseases and STDs have been eliminated. It is a diagnosis of exclusion, which can be certainly made only as a posteriori, when no recurrence can be seen. It's important to keep in mind that the recovery is spontaneous and the treatment only local and symptomatic.

P 11

Choriocarcinoma and foeto-maternal hemorrhage: a new case with new questions

R. Anderson1, F. Schücker, H. Stamm2, F. Cachat1, M.A. Pancard1, P. Yao3, A.S. Morel1
1Department of Pediatrics Riviera Hospital, Vevey, Switzerland; 2Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics Riviera Hospital, Vevey, Switzerland; 3University Institute of Pathology, University Hospital and University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Introduction: Intraplacental choriocarcinoma (IC) is rare, but the most aggressive form of gestational trophoblastic disease (GTD), seldom diagnosed as to describe a case of neonatal asphyxia associated with a massive foeto-maternal hemorrhage (FMH). Placental examination led to the fortuitous diagnosis of IC.

Case report: A 3400 g full-term boy was born to a 34 years old Greek G2P1 O- mother known for hypothyroidism and a previous miscarriage. Increased nuchal translucency (NT) in the first trimester motivated chorionic villous sampling (CVS) with normal karyotype. Gravidic cholestasis associated or fortuitous?

Investigations: A 3.2 cm central mass noticed on the sectioned placenta. Immunohistochemistry confirmed IC.

Conclusion: FMH occurred in 375/1% of 40 cases of IC, and is reported to be an early sign of IC, emphasizing the need of a systematic anatomopathological placental examination in case of FMH. Most likely IC incidence is underestimated. Ethyliophysiopathy remains unexplained. Could increased NT be a warning sign of IC or GTD? Does CVS play a role for the development of IC? Is gravidic cholestasis associated or fortuitous?

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Breath-holding spells caused by an alcoholic vitamin D₃ preparation in infancy

Pietro B. Fare1, Sebastiano A. G. Lava2, Giacomo D. Simonetti2, Gian Paolo Ramelli3, Mario G. Bianchetti4
1Division of Pediatrics, Bellinzona and Mendrisio, and University Hospital Lausanne; 2Neuropediatric Division of Children’s Hospital Bern; 3Department of neuroradiology, University Hospital of Bern; 4Neuropediatric Division of Children’s Hospital Zurich; 5Neuropediatric Division of Children’s Hospital Lausanne; 6Neuropediatric Division of Children’s Hospital in Lucerne; 7Neurorehabilitation of Children’s Hospital Zurich

Background: A 3-year-old girl was presented at the Emergency room with fever, cough and loss of weight since 2 months. On auscultation left-sided breath sounds were diminished. Chest X-ray (CXR) revealed a pneumothorax, shift of the mediastinum to the right as well as an infiltrate in the lingula. Pneumonia was diagnosed and considered to be cause of pneumothorax. Thoracotomy tube was inserted and antibiotics given due to hemophilus influenzae cultured in tracheal secretion specimen. Mantoux as well as sweat test results were negative. The girl improved quickly and was discharged after 6 days. Three weeks later, she was readmitted due to dry cough and wheezing unresponsive to inhaled beta-mimetics. On chest auscultation there were again reduced left-sided breath sounds. CXR showed hyperinflation of the left lung with mild shift of heart and mediastinum to the right. On fluoroscopy mediastinal shift during inspiration to the left and on expiration to the right was demonstrated. This is highly suggestive of a foreign body in the left-sided airways. However in a subsequent rigid bronchoscopy no foreign body was detected. As a next diagnostic step chest computer tomography confirmed an intraluminal mass in the distal left main bronchus. Bronchoscopy was repeated, this time by the use of a flexible instrument. A foreign body with a granulomatous surface was seen and removed thereafter by use of the rigid bronchoscope. Examination confirmed a piece of a peanut partially digested and covered with granulation tissue. Children younger than 3–4 years of age are at risk for foreign body aspiration. Most of the aspirated objects are nuts, primarily peanuts. Early diagnosis may be hampered by lack of a clear history of a foreign body aspiration with sudden onset of cough and airway obstruction. Thereafter an asymptomatic interval of several weeks may be followed by complications related to the presence of a foreign body like e.g. fever, cough, hemoptysis, pneumonia and atelectasis. Pneumothorax however is a rare complication of foreign body aspiration. Late phase complications occur due to inflammation and infection related to the presence of a foreign body. Pneumothorax is a rare complication thereof. In difficult cases a bronchoscopy using a flexible instrument in a first step may be helpful for better visualisation followed by removal of the localized object with the help of a rigid bronchoscope.

Conclusion: in young children presenting with respiratory distress never forget the possibility of a foreign body even if history of aspiration is missing. Late phase complications occur due to inflammation and infection related to the presence of a foreign body. Pneumothorax is a rare complication thereof. In difficult cases a bronchoscopy using a flexible instrument in a first step may be helpful for better visualisation followed by removal of the localized object with the help of a rigid bronchoscope.

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Non-traumatic spinal cord ischaemia in childhood – clinical manifestation, neuroimaging and outcome

Stettler S.1, El-Koussy M.2, Ritter B.1, Boltshauser E.1, Jeannet P.Y.1, Schmitt-Menchelke T.2, Meyer A.1, Steinlin M.1
1Neuropediatric Division of Children’s Hospital Bern; 2Department of neuroradiology, University Hospital of Bern; 3Neuropediatric Division of Children’s Hospital Zurich; 4Neuropediatric Division of Children’s Hospital Lausanne; 5Neuropediatric Division of Children’s Hospital in Lucerne; 6Neurorehabilitation of Children’s Hospital Zurich

Introduction: Spinal cord ischaemia (SCI) is rare in childhood. There is very few information on clinical presentation and outcome in these children.

Methods: Retrospective analysis of patients from the last 10 years with SCI. Relocation by contact to Swiss centres of neuroradiopics.

Data search: age, primary manifestation, risk factors, neuroimaging and outcome.

Additional literature search of cases reports.

Results: 14 patients relocated, 8 (5 girls) gave consent to participate. Mean age was 12.5 years (10 to 15 years), 6 presented with paraplegia...
Effects of farming environments on childhood atopy, wheeze, lung function, and exhaled nitric oxide

**Olive Fuchs**1,4, Jon Genuneit2, Erika von Mutius1, Urs Frey2
1Department of Paediatrics, Bern University Hospital, Bern, Switzerland; 2Institute of Epidemiology and Biometry, Ulm University, Ulm, Germany; 3Department of Pulmonology, University Children’s Hospital, University of Munich, Munich, Germany; 4University Children’s Hospital Basel (UKKB), Basel, Switzerland

**Introduction:** Whereas studies have consistently shown a protective effect of farming on atopy, results for asthma were heterogeneous so far. Thus, we studied the farming effect on wheeze phenotypes and objective markers like lung function and exhaled nitric oxide and their interrelation with atopy in children.

**Methods:** The GABRIEL Advanced Studies are cross-sectional multi-phase population-based surveys on the farm effect on asthma and allergic disease in children aged 6 to 12. Detailed data on wheeze, farming exposure, and immunoglobulin E were collected from a random sample of 8,023 children stratified for farming exposure. In a nested control design, another random subsample of 895 children stratified for asthma and atopy was drawn for spirometry and exhaled nitric oxide measurements.

**Results:** We found evidence for several farm effects: (i) on the prevalence and degree of atopy, (ii) on the prevalence of transient wheeze and (iii) on the prevalence of current wheeze among non-atopics. Among atopics we detected (iv) less elevated exhaled nitric oxide levels and (v) less impaired lung function.

**Conclusions:** Farming exposure may affect distinct mechanisms during the development of atopic sensitisation and wheeze. The lower prevalence of current wheeze among non-atopic farmers suggests a genuine farming effect independent of atopic sensitisation. Furthermore, farming appears to reverse the effects of eosinophilic inflammation in atopic airway function among atopics. However, this is functionally too small to result in a clinically relevant reduction of wheeze prevalence in atopics.

**Comparison of online single-breath versus multiple-breath exhaled nitric oxide in children at school entry

**Olive Fuchs**1,5, Philipp Latzin6, Florian Singer1,5, Elena Proietti1, Carmen Cassultta1, Urs Frey2
1Department of Paediatrics, Bern University Hospital, Bern, Switzerland; 2Department of Paediatrics, University Children’s Hospital Basel (UKBB), Basel, Switzerland

**Introduction:** Despite requiring less cooperation, there are no standards for online multiple-breath (mb) measurements of exhaled nitric oxide (eNO) with uncontrolled flow rate and no studies comparing these techniques. Difficult online single-breath (ab) eNO measurements in young children.

**Methods:** Online eNOmb and eNOsb were measured by a chemiluminescence analyzer connected to an ultrasonic flowmeter in n = 75 children. A random subset of unselected children (mean ± SD age of 6.1 ± 0.2 years, 43.5% males) and n = 7 asthmatic children during regular follow-up (mean ± SD age of 12.0 ± 4.0 years, 83.3% males). During measurements, we aimed for 55–58 children (48.1% males). With r² = 0.94, slope 1.0, p < 0.0001, eNOmb was significantly correlated with eNOsb (mean ± SD 10.3 ± 9.6 ppb) after computing NO output or after extrapolation to an expiratory flow rate of 50 mL/s (eNOmb, mean ± SD 10.9 ± 9.3 ppb), also on a log-log scale. The median difference between eNOb and eNOsb according to standards was –0.5 ppb with upper and lower limits of agreement of 4.1 and –5.2 ppb, respectively.

**Conclusions:** At school entry, online eNOmb with uncontrolled flow rate is highly correlated with the gold standard eNOsb measurements controlling for expiratory flow. The wide range of limits of agreement hampers eNOmb use in population-based research. Being less dependent on cooperation at this age, it might be a promising additional tool for the clinical setting to discriminate between disease groups.
Posterior cerebral artery was the most frequently affected vessel (21). After a follow-up period of 6 months, outcome was favorable, with 17 of 35 patients having no residual deficits and 19 patients demonstrating deficits such as ataxia (10), hemiplegia (10) and cranial nerve dysfunction (10). After a follow-up period of 2 years, 13 of 20 patients had residual deficits, mean modified Rankin score was 1.3 and mean IQ was 92.

Conclusion: Most pediatric patients with PCAIS have underlying risk factors such as coagulopathy and vasculopathy. Lesions are mainly cerebellar, nevertheless pediatric PCAIS are rarely isolated cerebellar strokes, but rather consist in multiple lesions. Despite severe neurological symptoms at presentation recovery is favorable. Neurological outcome as measured by a modified Rankin score is slightly better than in supratentorial stroke (1.3 versus 2.0).

Vertical transmission of Hepatitis B despite adequate immunization

Anderson R.1,2, Carrel O.1, Caudery M.1, Morel A.S.1, Panchon M.A.1, Cachat F.1
1Department of Pediatrics, Samaritain Regional Hospital, Vevey; 2Department of Pediatrics, University Hospital, Geneva; Pediatric Private Practice, Vevey

Introduction: Failure of active and passive hepatitis B immunization in a newborn born to a mother with hepatitis B is uncommon (10%) and strongly related to the presence of HBsAg and circulating HBV DNA in the mother. We here describe a patient with vertically acquired acute hepatitis, despite immunization.

Case report: The newborn was born a 28-year-old 1G 0P 0A mother with known hepatitis B (normal liver function tests, HBsAg, and the infant received adequate immunization, 20 days after delivery, HBsAb, and/or circulating HBV DNA in the mother. We here describe a patient with vertically acquired acute hepatitis, despite immunization, in the context of a Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis (LCH), further complicating the initial diagnosis.

Discussion: The presence of detectable HBV DNA and HBsAg in the mother is a frequent radiological sign of NF1 and interpreted as UBO. But expanded hyperintense areas in the brain, brainstem, cerebellum and along both optic tracts. A thickening of the pons, the medulla oblongata and the cerebellar peduncle on the right was noted. At spinal cord MRI there was an intramedullary T2w hyperintense lesion extending from T6/7 to T10 and a skip lesion was seen at the level of the conus, with a thickening of the spinal cord. Diffuse focal intramedullary T2w hyperintensities were also present in the cervical spinal cord especially at the level of C 6/7. There was no pleomorphic neurofibroma found. Follow up MRI 6 months later showed regressive cervical spinal cord lesions; the thoracic intramedullary lesions were less hyperintense, but the thickening of the spinal cord was still present. The intracerebral signal alterations were slightly regressive as well. There was no contact enhancement on the spinal cord and spinal cord MRI’s. Clinically the boy never showed any signs of cerebral or spinal cord dysfunction.

Conclusion: Focal intramedullary hyperintensities are well known in NF1 and interpreted as UBO. But expanded hyperintense areas in the spinal cord as in this patient are not described in the literature. The clinical significance was unclear, since the patient showed a progressive scoliosis without other neurological signs. The hyperintensities of the spinal cord were regressive after 6 months and no contrast enhancement was seen; the boy still didn’t suffer from neurological symptoms therefore we discussed the diagnosis of UBO of the spinal cord; a low grade glioma might be under the differential diagnosis for the thoracic spinal cord lesion.
and 24 hours of altered consciousness before hospitalisation. A few hours before hospitalisation the child developed mutism. There were no fever and no symptoms or signs of respiratory tract illness. The initial neonatopediatric examination revealed a impaired vigilance with a GCS of 8. Breathfeeding was spontaneous. There were no clinical signs of focal neurological deficits and the boy completely recovered from his neurological symptoms.

Diagnostic findings: Nasopharyngeal secretions were PCR positive for Influenza A/H1N1. Further analysis revealed an increased Influenza A antibody titer (1:11 to 1:1280). Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) showed an elevated IgG/IgM-Roquilin but neither an elevated leukocyte count nor a positive PCR or a positive serology for any virus or bacteria. EEG detected a generalised severe slowing of background activity with full recovery 14 days later. The MRI exhibited two lesions of the corpus callosum. We conclude that Influenza A/H1N1 encephalopathy is an acute but rare disease and may occur without typical influenza symptoms.

Person-to-person transmission of multidrug-resistant (MDR) Mycobacterium tuberculosis is reality in Switzerland

Ostschweizer Kinderspital Infektiologie / Pneumologie, Lungenliga Schweiz

Background: Worldwide, an increasing number of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) diseases have been reported in the last years. In Switzerland, 1.4% of all TB cases are caused by MDR strains. With previous TB treatment, the proportion of MDR strains is even higher (4%). Either selection of drug resistant strains by inadequate treatment or, in a lesser extent, direct transmission of MDR-TB strains may contribute to this increase. Yet, no MDR-TB person-to-person transmission has been documented in Switzerland.

Case: We report a case of a healthy young female from Tibet, living in Switzerland since 2007. She never had a TB-diagnosis or TB-treatment before. She was in close contact over a period of two weeks with a Tibetan friend with acute respiratory illness. He was hospitalized and diagnosed with smear positive, pulmonary tuberculosis, which turned out to be resistant to a MDR-TB strain. Contacts of the index case were investigated by TST and IGRA. As the young woman had positive TST and IGRA and minor symptoms with fatigue and cough, she also had a chest X-ray and sputum examination. Chest X-ray and clinical examination were normal and initial sputum microscopy was negative. Three weeks later, sputum culture turned out positive for M. tuberculosis. Genotyping revealed resistance to Rifampicin (R) and isoniazid (H). Antituberculous treatment with Ethambutol (E), Pyrazinamide (Z), Amikacin (Am), Oxymoxifloxacin (Mfx) and Ethionamid (Eto) was started immediately.

Conclusion: The index case and the above patient do not originate from the same community in Tibet. They had close contact in Switzerland while the index patient was symptomatic with open lung tuberculosis. The infected young woman subsequently developed respiratory symptoms. Resistance patterns of both M. tuberculosis strains that have been identified were the same and both strains were proven to be identical by RFLP-analysis. Thus, transmission most likely occurred by direct person-to-person transmission. During the investigation among contacts of a case of suspected or proven MDR-TB, the possibility of transmission should be kept in mind. In case of secondary TB, the treatment has to be adapted to the sensitivity of the strain of the source case.

Neonatal infection or withdrawal syndrome?

A case of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) withdrawal syndrome after concealed maternal cannabis smoking

Alice Tornay-Alvarez, Patrick Diebold, Denis Paccaud
Service de pédiatrie, Hôpital du Chatelard, 1990 Aigle

Neonatal infection and withdrawal syndrome share common symptoms. In neonates presenting with unspecific symptoms like fever, tachypnea, altered consciousness and irritability, pediatricians should consider the possibility of undeclared maternal abuse and neonatal withdrawal syndrome.

Case report: A 36-hours-old full term male newborn was admitted for fever, tachypnea and irritability. The pregnancy and delivery has been uneventful. The presumptive diagnosis of neonatal THC syndrome was made, for which he received empiric intravenous antibiotics. However, sepsis screen and blood culture remained negative. In spite of a negative history of drug abuse, the patient was rapidly suspected as THC withdrawal syndrome, as the baby showed respiratory and feeding difficulties which were non-viral triggers for wheeze or cough. Hypercortisolemia without hypercortisolism:

As a classical pitfall in adolescence

Graf S., Bachmann S., Zumsteg U., Sznaini G.
Paediatric Endocrinology / Diabetology, University Children’s Hospital Basel UKBB

Most of the hormones in the circulating blood are bound to specific binding proteins. Only the free fraction of specific hormones exert endocrine activity. Routine determination of total hormone levels representing the sum of the free and bound fraction may be misleading in clinical situations, when the concentration of the binding proteins is altered. A 16-year-old girl was investigated for possible anorexia nervosa by the pediatrician. A blood test at 08.00 a.m. revealed an excessively high cortisol value (1455 nmol/L; N <800). At referral, the patient’s history was uneventful. She was performing intensive daily exercise, showed no weakness or documented weight increase in the last months. Menses were regular under oral contraception (OC). Clinical examination did not reveal signs of Cushing’s syndrome nor hypertension. At 04.00 p.m. an elevated total cortisol value was confirmed (785 nmol/L; N <400) indicating a residual circadian rhythm but on an elevated level. ACTH was not suppressed and androgens (androstenedione, dehydroepiandrosterone) were normal. Low-dose dexamethasone test revealed an incomplete inhibition of the hypothalamo-pituitary-adrenal axis, while 24-hour urinary free cortisol excretion was completely normal. OC intake is well known to cause elevated corticosteroid-binding globulin (CBG) leading to isolated increase of total cortisol between 650–1000 nmol/L in healthy women. Nevertheless, total cortisol levels as high as in our patient are rare. Drug-induced hypercortisolemia in patients without hypercortisolism can be diagnosed by measurement of normal levels of free cortisol in blood or urine and increased CBG if discontinuation of OC is not desired.

Robust prediction of later asthma in symptomatic toddlers: a novel approach

Ms. Anina Pescatore, Dr. Ben Spycher, Prof. Lutz Duemberg, Ms. Marie-Pierre Strippoli, Dr. Christian Duedorf, Prof. Michael Silverman, MD and Dr. Claudia Kuehni, MD
1Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland; 2School of Social and Community Medicine, University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom; 3Institute of Mathematical Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland and 4Department of Infection, Immunity & Inflammation, University of Leicester, Leicester, United Kingdom.

Aim: Many children have asthma-like symptoms in early life, but few develop asthma. Several models for predicting later asthma in symptomatic toddlers have been built, but some included factors that are difficult to assess, and methods used were prone to overfitting, leading to selection or exaggeration of irrelevant factors. We aimed to identify predictors for later asthma avoiding previous limitations. Methods: In a population-based cohort, we selected 1–3 year-olds with respiratory symptoms at baseline, demographic and perinatal data. We used lasso penalized logistic regression to select predictors. This minimizes the number of included predictors while maximizing area under ROC curve (AUC).

Results: Main predictors for asthma at 5 years of age was current wheeze or recurrent cough (OR = 1.5) and 24 hours of altered consciousness before hospitalisation. A few hours before hospitalisation the child developed mutism. There were no fever and no symptoms or signs of respiratory tract illness. The initial neonatopediatric examination revealed a impaired vigilance with a GCS of 8. Breathfeeding was spontaneous. There were no clinical signs of focal neurological deficits and the boy completely recovered from his neurological symptoms.

Disciplinary findings: Nasopharyngeal secretions were PCR positive for Influenza A/H1N1. Further analysis revealed an increased Influenza A antibody titer (1:11 to 1:1280). Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) showed an elevated IgG/IgM-Roquilin but neither an elevated leukocyte count nor a positive PCR or a positive serology for any virus or bacteria. EEG detected a generalised severe slowing of background activity with full recovery 14 days later. The MRI exhibited two lesions of the corpus callosum. We conclude that Influenza A/H1N1 encephalopathy is an acute but rare disease and may occur without typical influenza symptoms.
older age at baseline and low birth weight. The results for asthma 8 yrs later (AUC = 0.72) were similar.

Conclusion: Among factors easy to assess in symptomatic toddlers, wheeze severity, eczema and male sex are main predictors of asthma in mid-childhood. Because our approach avoids overfitting, the resulting prediction models should perform well with new data. However, external validation is needed.

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Sexual precocity in our modern society: case report of an eleven month old boy presenting with testosterone indetectable levels

Tschopp Moix V.1, Wehrli U.1, Tabin R.2, Phan-Hug F.3
1Cabinet médical Tabin-Wehrli, Sière; 2Département médicoclinical de pédiatrie, Hôpital du Valais, CHCVs, Sion; 3Service d'endocrinologie pédiatique, CHUV

We present a situation of an 11 months old boy, born at term, with normal neonatal screening who consulted for signs of male sexual precocity: increased penis size, pubic hair, hyperpigmentation of the scrotum, frequent erections, growth acceleration from 7 month onwards and behavioral problems. Serum testosterone (testosterone) and estradiol were undetectable, while the laboratory of the adrenal cortex revealed a normal 21-hydroxylase. The interdiction of close examination at the age of 11 months and the need to consider forms of rare adrenal hyperplasia of late onset, adrenal and testicular tumor and rarer causes (LH receptor mutation (testotoxicose), McCune Albright syndrome, BHCG producing tumors). In this situation an external source of testosterone was suspected. Finally, a close friend of the family was identified to use an anti aging cream (Receptela Hormone balance®), containing testosterone. The interdiction of close contact with this family friend showed rapid decrease of testosterone level and stabilisation of virilisation signs and growth velocity. The clinical and biological follow up confirmed testosterone intoxication when in this case. Sexual precocity in a boy needs always endocrinological evaluation and tumor exclusion. In a society where sport performance, eternal youth and beauty are promoted testosterone intoxication has to be considered. As testosterone use, doping and antiaging treatment remain a taboo subject with interdicted annotation, patient history can first be negative and erroneous! Paediatricians and adult physicians should be aware of this increasing problem.

Urogenital schistosomiasis: An unusual cause of macroscopic hematuria in Switzerland

Yannine S.1, Tschumi S.1, Heiniger S.1, Agyeman P.1, Ritz N.1, Simonetti G.O.1
1Paediatric Nephrology Unit, University Children's Hospital Berne and University of Berne, Switzerland; 2Paediatrician, Bern, Switzerland; 3Paediatric Infectious Disease Unit, University Children's Hospital Berne and University of Berne, Switzerland

Background: Hematuria in Swiss children is most frequently caused by urolithiasis, bacterial or viral infections, neoplastic diseases or glomerulonephritis. Worldwide however schistosomiasis is one of the most common reasons of hematuria particularly for individuals from Africa.

Case: An 11-year-old boy from Togo who had immigrated to Switzerland 18 months earlier presented with a history of macroscopic hematuria for the last two years. His hematuria was at the end of micturition and there was no dysuria or fever. Urinalysis confirmed the hematuria with the presence of numerous red blood cells and no evidence of bacterial infection or gomeral inflammation. An ultrasonography of the urinary tract detected a thickening of the upper bladder wall, both kidneys were normal. Complete blood analysis showed an eosinophilia of 1.7 x 10^9/l. The normal white blood cell count and platelet counts and a normal hemoglobin concentration. Liver and renal parameters were within normal range. Serology was positive for Schistosoma mansoni. A morning spot urine analysis did not reveal the presence of parasites. However a subsequent early-morning urine collection over two hours showed eggs of schistosoma haematobium, mansoni and intercalatum. Stool analysis was negative for parasites. Treatment with praziquantel (2 x 20 mg/kg) was followed, one month later, hematuria and eosinophilia had resolved.

Conclusion: Schistosomiasis (or bilharziosis) is an unusual cause of hematuria in Switzerland, but should particularly be considered in African immigrants. Detection of schistosoma eggs is enhanced when urine is collected in the early afternoon. Treatment with praziquantel, which is currently not licensed in Switzerland, is simple, well tolerated and effective in preventing long-term complications such as bladder cancer.

Cranial polynuereitis as a rare manifestation of neuroborreliosis in children

Liamlhaih R.1, Huber B.1, Toff T.1, Goetschel P.1
1Department of Pediatrics and 2Consultant Pediatric Neurology, Triemli Hospital Zurich

Introduction: Borreliosis infection, also known as Lyme disease is a spirochetosis transmitted by deer ticks. In about 15% of patients it involves the central nervous system and is then called neuroborreliosis. Neurological complications occur more often in Europe than in the US suggesting a greater neurotropism of Borrelia garinii a subspecies prevalent in Europe. Usual manifestations of neuroborreliosis in children include headache, facial nerve palsy and sensoric meningitis. We present a case with abducens nerve palsy a rare manifestation of neuroborreliosis.

Case presentation: We report the case of a 10 years old girl who was referred to our emergency department with suspicion of neuroborreliosis. She complained about double vision and reported several tick bites that occurred about 5 weeks before first presentation of symptoms. The neurological examination showed a palsy of the left abducens nerve. All other cranial nerves were clinically not affected. Blood serum was tested positive for Borrelia IgG and IgM (ELISA and Western blot) and negative for tick-borne encephalitis. A lumbar puncture revealed a pleocytosis (10 mononuclear cells/µl), cerebrospinal fluid with normal protein as well as an intrathecal production of Borrelia antibodies. A cerebral MRI showed signs of a neuritis of the left oculomotor nerve, the left trigeminal nerve as well as both abducens nerves. After treatment with intravenous ceftraxone for 21days the patient recovered completely within two months.

Conclusion: Neuroborreliosis has to be considered in the differential diagnosis in children at risk for tick bites presenting an isolated cranial nerve palsy. The facial nerve is most frequently affected but also other cranial nerves can be involved and have to be carefully examined. In cerebral MRI multiple enhancing cranial nerves can be seen not always correlating with neurologic symptoms. Despite the higher incidence of neuroborreliosis in children the clinical course is generally milder than cerebral meningitis in adults and has a good prognosis. It remains unclear whether children older than 8 years with isolated cranial nerve palsy, other than the facial nerve, could also be treated with oral doxycycline.

Familial cerebral cavernomas: fortuitously discovered during parainfluenza virus infection in a child

Andrey V.1, San Millan D.2, Marcz P.-J.3, Cheseaux J.-J.1, Llor J.-1, Kuchler H.4, Tabin R.1
1Département de Pédiatrie et 2Unité de Neuroradiologie, Département d’Imagerie Diagnostique et Interventionnelle, Hôpital du Valais – CHUV – site hospitalier de Sion

Introduction: Cerebral cavernomas malformations (CCM) represent 5% to 13% of all vascular malformations. A familial (genetic) form of cerebral CCM is known to affect 10–40% of patients with CCMs. Asymptomatic patients with known familial CCM are commonly encountered. However, fortuitous discovery of familial CCM in an asymptomatic patient is rare. We report the case of an infant in which lesions consistent with multiple CCM were incidentally disclosed, leading to the diagnosis of familial CCM.

Case report: A 8 months old boy with normal development, presented with fever and bulging fontanel. CSF analysis ruled-out meningitis-encephalitis. Parainfluenza virus was detected. The child rapidly improved. Cerebral sonography revealed enlarged ventricles. Fundoscopy demonstrated left retinal hemorrhage focus without papillary edema. Brain MRI disclosed multiple cortical and subcortical lesions. Signal characteristics, in conjunction with CT findings, were consistent with small hemorrhagic foci. Findings were, therefore, consistent with multiple CCM and retinal cavernomatous malformations (CM). Family history was unremarkable except for cerebral vascular event of unknown etiology in the paternal grandmother. Father’s brain MRI and fundoscopy revealed multiple asymptomatic CCM and retinal CM.

Discussion: In this case, both baby and father had multiple CCM which was sufficient to diagnose familial CCM. Demonstrating CCM in the father was important because it offers additional clues for which the lesions in the baby were multiple CCM and for genetic counseling. There is currently no clear consensus concerning follow-up strategies. Some authors recommend yearly observation of CCMs, however, asymptomatality in CCM and communicating hydrocephalus, suggested by the finding of a subependymal CM responsible for ventricular hemorrhage.

Conclusion: Familial MRI screening should be performed to confirm the diagnosis of familial CCM when lesions consistent with multiple CCM are detected in a child. As demonstrated by the present case, familial CCM can be asymptomatic both in children and in adults.
Cholelithiasis: obesity complication or orlistat adverse reaction?

Martinez-Esteve Melnikova A., Genni B.1, Livio F.1, Produt S.1, Cheseaux J.J.1, Lior J.1, Marcoz J.P., Tabin R.1, 2
1Hôpital du Valais – CHCVs – site hospitalier de Sion; 2Pharmacologie clinique, CHUV, Lausanne

Introduction: Obesity is increasingly prevalent in the pediatric population. Its short and long-term health consequences are significant. Diet combined with physical activity is not always successful and orlistat, a synthetic lipase inhibitor which decreases absorption of dietary fats, is sometimes prescribed in children and adolescents, despite limited safety data in this population.

Case description: An 8 year old, obese, out-patient was admitted for abdominal pain. She had been treated by orlistat for 3 months with a weight loss of 6 kg. The patient was soon diagnosed with acute cholecystitis with cholelithiasis and operated 48 hours later.

Discussion: Obesity is a known risk factor for lithogenesis. Cholelithiasis prevalence in obese children is 2% compared to 0.1–0.6% in the non-obese. Other known risk factors are rapid weight loss and female sex. Efficacy of orlistat on weight loss is rather limited, but some studies demonstrate that it can decrease gallbladder emptying, which could theoretically promote lithogenesis. Other adult and pediatric studies of cholelithiasis/orlistat/carcinogenicity have been reported in patients treated by orlistat during clinical trials and post-marketing surveillance, but causality link could not be confirmed due to confounding factors and lack of pharmaco-epidemiological studies.

Conclusion: Orlistat could increase the risk of cholelithiasis and patients treated with this lipase inhibitor, either prescribed or over the counter, should be carefully monitored. Further data from prospective or case-control studies including pediatric patients are needed to assess this potential risk.

Sudden death at 5 years

Russo M.1,2, Breant I.1, Haïat Haya H.1, Joly-Sanchez L.2, Layad S.1, Le Lorier B.2, Meziane R.1, Nzonzila J.2, Rougeoreille C.2
1CHCVs, Hôpital du Valais; 2CH Melun (Fr)

Introduction: We observed 3 cases of recurrent osteoarticular pain, in a primary care hospital, all diagnosed as Chronic Recurrent Multifocal Osteomyelitis (CRMO).

Case report: Two girls (8 and 9 years old), and one boy aged 9, were admitted to the hospital after several months of osteoarticular recurrent pain with variable symptomatology: local swelling, fever, fatigue, hepatomegaly, splenomegaly and with mild to severe biological inflammation. The boy had palmar and sole aseptic pustulosis. The girls displayed clavicular involvement. One had foot immobilized for suspected stress fracture. Leukemia was excluded by bone marrow analysis in the boy. Blood cultures were sterile. Bone scan and/or total body MRI showed anomalies in metaphyses of tubular bones, clavicles, ribs, vertebrae and pelvis. Antibiotics were ineffective in one child but NSAID dramatically improve all 3. Biphosphonates were administrated later on successfully in one patient. During one year follow-up and despite continuous NSAID, all patients had intermittent periods of remission and exacerbations of the disease.

Discussion: CRMO has been described in 1978 and is now classified as an auto-inflammatory disease involving multifocal osteoarticular sites as metaphyses of tubular bones, ribs, vertebrae, mandible, pelvis – and also soft tissues. Children over 5 years, adolescents and young adults may be affected. Bone scan or total body MRI are often diagnostic. Biopsies must be reserved in unilocular presentation and bone marrow aspiration when hemophagia is suspected. History shows lytic and/or sclerotic osteous lesions, sometimes with hyperostosis. NSAID are first line treatment and biphosphonates, if necessary, may be administrated. Some patients have been treated with biotherapies. The disease has usually a several months duration but may sometimes become chronic. Adults suffering from this disease have usually skin involvement corresponding to SAPHO syndrome (Synovite Acne Pustulosis Hyperostosis Osteomyelitis).

Conclusion: CRMO must be evoked in patients with recurrent multiple osteoarticular pain. Pediatrician must be aware of this entity to perform rapidly adequate investigations and begin treatment with NSAID that could save time and invasive investigations.
left V1th nerve impairment and, 15 days later, with left papillary edema. MRI confirmed intracranial hypertension with bilateral papilledema. The child underwent an external ventricular drainage and was anticoagulated by acenocoumarol for a total of 6 months. He fully recovered.

Discussion: LST is an uncommon intracranial complication of otitis media and associated mastoiditis. Typically originating in the sigmoid sinus, they may propagate to other meningeal sinuses such as the jugular vein. Vessel occlusion ultimately obstructs cerebrospinal fluid drainage, leading increased intracranial pressure and hydrocephalus. Classically symptoms include prominent headache with otalgia, meningismus, and papillary edema. Treatment strategies include myringotomy tube placement, mastoidectomy, anticoagulation and intravenous antibiotics. Mortality rates range from 5 to 10%.

Conclusion: Inappropriate antibiotic therapy, LST is still a threat to children with otitis media. Paediatricians should suspect a LST in patients with otitis media who report headache, vomiting or other neurological symptoms.

Monoxide carbon intoxication – retrospective case review
Hôpital de Vaud – CHCVs – site hospitalier de Sion
Introduction: Inodorant, insipid, and invisible, carbon monoxide is one of the most frequently cause of intoxication. If neurological symptoms are neglected, it can result in permanent neurological injury. The manifestations of delayed neuropsychiatric sequelae are variable and specific.
Case review: A retrospective study (2004–2011) identified 13 children hospitalized in CHCVs with CO intoxication. Epidemiologic and clinical data were collected and analyzed. The patient ages ranged from 7 to 14 years, with a mean of 11 ± 4.5 years. The chimney smoke inhalation was the most common cause of intoxication (54%), followed by the improperly vented exhaust produced by gas water heaters (31%) and the house fires (15%). 100% of events occurred during cold season. The most common presenting symptom was consciousness disturbance (72%). Four patients (31%) received hyperbaric oxygen therapy. GCS (8%) needed intubation for laryngeal edema. HbCO levels ranged from 1.5% to 30.3%.
Discussion: The presence of the non specific neurological symptoms in children during the hibernial season must lead to an exhaustive anamnesis, in order to discover a potential exposition to carbon monoxide. Hyperbaric treatment is well codified for high HbCO level. Acute neurological symptoms should be detected in order to initiate hyperbaric therapy, regardless HbCO level. Delayed therapy may compromise neurologic recovery. More information is needed regarding the long-term effects of carbon monoxide on the pediatric population related to the acute neurological symptoms and to HbCO levels at the admission moment.
Conclusion: Physicians should be aware of the non-specific symptoms in children with positive anamnesis of CO intoxication. Early identification of neurological sequelae risk factors should help to provide better care.

Successful management of developmental hip dysplasia with Tübingen harness
1CHCVs – Hôpital du Valais, Sion; 2CHUV, Lausanne
Introduction: Developmental dysplasia of the hip (DDH) is a frequent entity in early childhood. The incidence of dysplasia is 2–5% in general and 1–2% with dislocation. Obvious risk factors are family history, breech position, multiple gestation, orthopedic malformations and neuromuscular disease. Without treatment, DDH may lead to early coxa vara. Maintenance in hyperflexion and abduction is needed for a correct hip joints development. Treatment of hip dysplasia by Tübingen harness has been applied since 1980’s, mostly in German speaking areas and is easier to apply than Pavlik harness. Acute neurological symptoms should be detected in order to initiate hyperbaric therapy, regardless HbCO level. Delayed therapy may compromise neurologic recovery. More information is needed regarding the long-term effects of carbon monoxide on the pediatric population related to the acute neurological symptoms and to HbCO levels at the admission moment.
Conclusion: Physicians should be aware of the non-specific symptoms in children with positive anamnesis of CO intoxication. Early identification of neurological sequelae risk factors should help to provide better care.
deficiency. We initiated a slow realimentation. Electrolyte disturbances were corrected. The therapy aimed at establishing a well-balanced diet and to instruct the parents in the importance of adequate nutrition for the development of an infant.

**Conclusion:** We suggest that despite, or possibly because of the abundance of various foodstuffs available, cases of severe malnutrition may be not only a problem of poverty, but can also be seen in the richest countries. In a time when a lot of investments and efforts are made in preventing allergies and to impose so called healthy diets it is the responsibility of every pediatrician and medical practitioner to have an open eye for conditions caused by malnutrition from inadequate diets given for health reasons.

**From the eye to the kidney – ocular abnormalities leading to the diagnosis of Alport syndrome**

**Tschumi S.1; Yammine S.1; Frueh B.1; Simonetti G.D.1**

1Paediatric Nephrology Unit, University Children's Hospital, University of Berne, Inselspital, Berne; 1Department of Ophthalmology, University of Bern, Inselspital, Berne

**Background:** Alport syndrome is a hereditary disease of type IV collagen characterized by the association of renal symptoms (hematuria and possible progressive kidney failure), sensorineural hearing loss and ocular changes. The inheritance is predominantly X-linked and mutations affect the gene encoding the 5 chain of type IV collagen (COL4A5). Homozygote men are usually severely affected with progressive kidney failure, leading to end stage renal disease. In contrast women tend to have a mild form, often with only microscopic hematuria and normal kidney function. The distinctive clinical features occur because the 5 chain of type IV collagen is normally expressed in the basement membranes of the kidney, ear, lens capsule and retina. Particularly in children, the definitive diagnosis of Alport syndrome may be difficult and many cases remain undiagnosed.

**Case:** A 12-year-old boy was diagnosed to have a severe sensorineural hearing loss, which required hearing devices since the age of 6 years. At the age of 12 years he additionally complained of visual impairment; an ophthalmological examination revealed the presence of a lenticonus, the retina did not show any pathological abnormalities. Because the combination of hearing loss and lenticonus was suspicious for Alport syndrome, urinalysis was performed, which revealed microscopic hematuria and gross proteinuria with normal renal function and blood pressure. The boy also has a known microscopic hematuria. The kidney biopsy confirmed the diagnosis of Alport syndrome with lack of staining of the glomerular basement membrane on electron microscopy. An antiproteinuric treatment with the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor ramipril was started.

**Conclusion:** Lenticonus, retinal abnormalities and sensorineural hearing loss may be the first symptomatic manifestation of Alport syndrome in childhood. In case of typical eye abnormalities comprehensive and careful diagnostic exams are needed in order to make an early definitive diagnosis of Alport syndrome, which allows a prompt initiation of antiproteinuric treatment to slow renal failure progression.

**Perforated Meckel's diverticulum in a female neonate**

Dr. S. Kämpfen, PD Dr. F.M. Häcker, Prof. S. Schützke

Universitätskinderklinik beider Basel, Neonatologie

**Introduction:** The incidence of Meckel's Diverticulum (MD) is about 2% in the western population with a total life time risk of complications of 4%. Most symptomatic paediatric cases occur within the first two years of life. However, perforated MD in neonates has been reported in very few cases in the English literature.

**Case:** A term girl (birth weight 4000 g) presented in the emergency department at the age of 18 days due to mucous, blood-stained stools and abdominal distension without vomiting. Clinical examination showed a distended abdomen. Laboratory work-up revealed normal values for blood picture, coagulation profile and C-reactive protein. Initial abdominal ultrasound showed fluid-filled small bowel and some free abdominal fluid but no signs of intussusception or malalignment of superior mesenteric vessels. Over the next few hours, non-bilious vomiting occurred. Repeat abdominal ultrasound showed non-propulsive peristalsis suggesting intestinal obstruction. Abdominal x-ray indicated intra-abdominal air fluid levels, but no pneumoperitoneum. Explorative laparoscopy revealed a perforated MD with macroscopic signs of diverticulitis. Two centimeters of small bowel were resected via lower transverse laparotomy. Further clinical condition and feeding were uncomplicated and the girl was discharged home on full breast feeds six days post surgery.

**Conclusion:** Intestinal obstruction in neonates may be due to perforated MD. Laboratory signs of inflammation may be absent in neonatal perforated MD despite presence of diverticulitis. Laparoscopic evaluation is helpful in establishing the diagnosis.

**Peripheral facial nerve palsy in severe systemic hypertension: report of two cases and review of the literature**

Rinaldo Jörg1, Gregorio P. Milani2, Mario G. Bianchetti3, Giacomo D. Simonetti4, Barbara Goeggel Simonetti5

1Division of Paediatrics, Mendisino and Bellinzona Hospitals, and University of Berne, Switzerland; 2Paediatric Nephrology, University Children's Hospital Berne and University of Berne, Switzerland; 3Paediatric Neurology, University Children's Hospital Berne and University of Berne, Switzerland

**Objective:** Signs of nervous system dysfunction such as headache, vomiting or convulsions often occur in severe systemic hypertension. Less recognized is the association between severe hypertension and peripheral facial nerve palsy. The goal of this study is to present 2 cases of severe hypertension associated with peripheral facial nerve palsy and to synthesize the published literature.

**Patients and Methods:** The U.S. National Library of Medicine database and the web-based search engine Google, through November 2010, were used as data sources. All articles published after 1960 as full-length articles or letters were collected.

**Results:** We included our 2 cases and 23 patients reported in the literature with severe hypertension (= blood pressure exceeding the 99th percentile by >5 mm Hg in children or 180/110 mm Hg in adults) and peripheral facial nerve palsy. Twenty-three of the 25 patients were ≤15 years of age. Facial palsy was unilateral in 24 cases and bilateral in one case. A second attack occurred in 8 patients. The time elapsed between the first facial symptoms and the diagnosis of hypertension ranged between 2 days and 2 years. In three case series specifically addressing the complications of severe hypertension in paediatric patients, 32 further cases of peripheral facial nerve palsy out of 755 patients (4.2%) were listed but not further described in detail.

**Conclusions:** The association between severe hypertension and peripheral facial nerve palsy merits wider recognition and assessment of blood pressure is recommended in every case of peripheral facial nerve palsy.
A study on the acceptability of the influenza vaccine during pregnancy
Blanchard-Rohner G.1, Meier S.1, Ryser J.2, Schaller D.1, Burton-Jeangros C.1, Martínez de Tejada B.1, Siegrist C.-A.1
1Department of Paediatrics, Children's Hospital of Geneva, University Hospitals of Geneva; 2Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University Hospitals of Geneva; 3Department of Sociology of the University of Geneva
Introduction: Pregnant women and infants are at increased risk of complications due to influenza infection, which are vaccine-preventable. In Switzerland seasonal influenza vaccine is recommended for pregnant women since 2005. We conducted a study to assess knowledge and acceptance of influenza vaccine during pregnancy.

Methods: All women hospitalised in March 2011 in the post-partum unit of the Maternity of the University Hospitals of Geneva were offered a questionnaire to assess their knowledge, beliefs and acceptance of influenza vaccine during pregnancy.

Results: The questionnaire was offered to 320 women of which 255 (80%) agreed to complete the questionnaire. 77% of women were aware that influenza presents an increased risk for pregnant women but only 46% were aware that flu vaccine was recommended during pregnancy. Only 19% of women reported having been immunised during their pregnancy and only 43% recalled that the vaccine had been offered. Principal barriers to vaccination were lack of information from healthcare workers (47%), and the beliefs that the vaccine was unsafe during pregnancy (37%) and ineffective (19%).

Conclusion: Identifying the barriers to influenza vaccination during pregnancy will help in designing interventions aimed at improving the knowledge about and acceptance of influenza vaccination during pregnancy.

Often harmless – but sometimes with severe complications: Three cases of intracranial complications in trivial ORL-infections
Böhringer E., Weber P., Schneider J., Datta A.
Universität-Kinderklinik Beider Basel, CH
Introduction: Upper airway infections lead to 70% of pediatric consultations. Most of them heal spontaneously or under antibiotic treatment without difficulties. However intracranial infections can rarely occur as a complication.

Case Reports: We report three cases of severe intracranial complications of trivial ORL-infections:
2. A 14-year-old boy who presented with headache, a complex focal seizure and Todd’s paralysis. The CT-scan confirmed sinusitis and antibiotic treatment was started. During this treatment he developed severe cerebritis with reduced vigilance, hemiplegia, and epidural/subdural empyema, necessitating subsequent neurosurgical intervention.
3. A 18-month-old girl presenting with ataxia, nystagmus and impaired vigilance. Imaging showed otitis media and mastoiditis. The cranial MRI showed an epidural abscess, sigmoid sinus thrombosis and neurosurgical intervention was necessary.

Conclusion: Common ORL-infections can be complicated by severe intracranial complications, sometimes initially associated with just mild symptoms. Minor or major focal neurological signs must trigger immediate neuroradiological imaging to detect or exclude intracranial pathology and enforce proper treatment.

Ethical decision making in severe malformation syndrome
S. Pfäffli, G. Jäger, B. Rogdo
Ostschweizer Kinderklinik St. Gallen, Intensivstation
Introduction: As physicians we are often faced with ethical questions such as whether to continue life-supporting measures or not. We report the case of a newborn presenting with a severe malformation syndrome, which led us to judge intensive care as not beneficial for the child even before knowing the genetic diagnosis.

Case report: A term male was born by emergency C-section because of vaginal bleedings and breech presentation in the 37 1/2 gestational week. The ultrasounds during pregnancy and the pregnancy itself were without pathological findings. There are no genetic disorders in family history. There was an intrauterine growth retardation with birth weight of 2050 g (350 g-P3). Postpartum several malformations stood out: Trigonocephaly, club-feet, congenital heart defect, focal defects of the upper extremities, cavernous eye sockets with near impossibility to open the lids, preauricular tags, retrognathia and a high arched palate. Furthermore there was a muscular hypotonia, a missing sucking reflex and in the abdominal ultrasound we saw two large polyctic kidneys. Findings were indicative of severe CNS-dysfunction of prenatal, most probably genetic origin. Before we got the results of the chromosome analysis there was a progressive deterioration of the boy’s condition with frequent episodes of central bradycnephas requiring noninvasive ventilatory support. The situation became critical, so that we had to decide about life sustaining measures although we did not yet have a definite diagnosis. Because prognosis was estimated to be very poor regarding survival as well as future quality of life, we and the parents came to the decision not to intubate and later on to stop ventilatory support as well. The boy died at the age of one week. The final diagnosis was an unbalanced chromosomal translocation 13:22 with partial trisomy 13 and monosomy 22q.

Conclusion: This case illustrates the importance of an individual, case-related approach to ethical decisions in our daily work. According to the “7-step-dialog” of Dialog Ethik our team unanimously came to the conclusion to stop life supporting measures before the post mortem. We did a MRI for further diagnosis and from the genetic laboratory we got the final diagnosis of translocation trisomy 13, which has little chance of survival.

Primary ciliary dyskinesia: Usefulness of nasal nitric oxide measurements
Ashkenazi Moshe, Grunder Franziska, Regamey Nicolas, Latzin Philipp, Casaulta Carmen
Division of Respiratory Medicine, Department of Paediatrics, University Children’s Hospital of Bern, Bern

Background: Primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD) has a prevalence of 1:1600. The gold standard of the diagnosis is an electron microscopy (EM) of nasal or bronchial cilia. Nasal nitric oxide (nNO) levels are usually very low in this disease and the nNO measurements are used as screening tool for PCD. In our clinic a cut-off level of 100 ppb was used. In the recent literature much higher nNO levels are reported in confirmed PCD patients.

Objectives: To evaluate the diagnostic pathway for PCD based on nNO.

Methods: all children with nNO <180 ppb in the last 3 years (n = 95) were interviewed in a systematic way and investigated in our outpatient clinic. The measurement were done only when the children had no signs of upper respiratory infection. If the second measurement confirmed the low nNO level or if the clinical history remained suggestive for PCD, nasal brushing for light and/or EM were performed.

Results: A second nNO measurement was performed in 30 children. Median (range) nNO of the first measurement was 83 (6.4–180) ppb. Median retest nNO was 280 (1.4–600) ppb. 23 Patients showed values higher than 180 ppb. 7 patients had a persistently low nNO or suggestive anamnesis and underwent further investigations in our outpatient clinic. The measurement were done only when the children had no signs of upper respiratory infection. If the second measurement confirmed the low nNO level or if the clinical history remained suggestive for PCD, nasal brushing for light and/or EM were performed.

Discussion: The diagnostic pathway for PCD based on nNO measurements can be useful as a first screening. Measurements during infection of upper airway might show false low results and should be repeated after treatment of the nose with saline and in symptom-free interval.

Familial cases of neonatal lactic acidosis, Fanconi tubulopathy and sensorineural deafness in complex III deficiency
Ferrari Alessandra1, Diebold Patrick2, Ballhausen Diana1, Boulat Olivier1, Hahn Dagmar3, Shaller André4, Chehade Hassib4, Rosato Luigi4, Nuoffer Jean-Marc4, Bonafé Luisa1
1Division of Molecular Pediatrics, University Hospital Lausanne; 2Department of Pediatrics, Hospital of Chablais, Aigle; 3Central laboratory of Clinical Chemistry, University Hospital Lausanne; 4Institute of Clinical Chemistry, University Hospital Bern; Division of Human Genetics, University Hospital Bern 1; Division of Pediatric Nephrology, University Hospital Lausanne

Introduction: Lactic acidosis represents the onset of different inborn errors of intermediate metabolism. If a specific organic aciduria or glyconenogenetic deficiency is early recognized, dietary treatment is usually life-saving. When neonatal lactic acidosis is due to primary mitochondrial dysfunction, for which no effective treatment exists, neurologic outcome and vital prognosis are mostly poor. Molecular confirmation of mitochondrial diagnosis is often burdensome but important for genetic counseling.

Case report: We report a 17-year-old boy born to consanguineous Turkish parents. In the neonatal period he presented hypoglycemia, glycosuria and life-threatening lactic acidosis which completely
normalized after infancy. Hearing loss was recognized and treated from age 3 years. At 14 years, he presented with short stature, deafness, genua valga, hypophosphatemic rickets due to renal Fanconi syndrome, and cognitive function in the low normal range. A mitochondrial disease was suspected based on the clinical history, although lactate was not increased in plasma and urine. He developed mild glomerular renal insufficiency. Family history revealed that his first cousin, a 14 year-old girl, had growth retardation, renal Fanconi syndrome, genua valga, severe hypophosphatemic rickets, deafness (diagnosed at age 13 years) and mental retardation.

Discussion: Complex III deficiency is caused most often by mutations in the nuclear gene BCS1L, coding for a CIII assembly factor. The syndrome (sensorineural deafness and pili torti) and the lethal GRACILE syndrome, both caused by BCS1L mutations. Cognitive outcome may be variable and possibly linked to the timing of deafness correction. This report also highlights that lactic acidosis may be transient in this disorder with relatively good neurological outcome, unusual for a respiratory chain disorder with severe neonatal onset. Molecular diagnosis allowed appropriate genetic counseling and possibility for prenatal testing in multiple siblings, in a family with high rate of consanguinity. The precise diagnosis improved the management and follow-up of the 2 patients with multi-organ survey and supportive treatment. The genetic diagnosis brought an important psychological benefit to the family, after 16 years of strong guilt and uncertainty feelings.

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Development and validation of a didactic game for food allergic children
1 Paediatric Allergology, CHUV, Lausanne; 2 Paediatric Allergology, HUG, Geneva; 3 Epidemiology, CHUV, Lausanne; 4 Department of Paediatrics, University College, Cork; 5 Division of Paediatric Pulmonology and Allergy, University Medical Center, Groningen

Background: Food allergy in children, significantly affects the quality of life. As there is no available cure for the disease, management is restricted to avoidance and emergency treatment of reactions after accidental ingestions. Education is therefore key in order to improve their quality of life and to reduce morbidity and mortality. Objectives: The aim of our study was to develop and validate – by the validated French version of the Food Allergy Quality of Life Questionnaires, parent’s form and children’s form (FAQLQ-PF and FAQLQ-CF) – the food allergy independent measure (FAIM) – a food allergy specific, didactic and interactive electronic game. Methods: The game was based on common situations encountered by food allergic children. Food eviction, accidental ingestions, anaphylaxis management and general knowledge about food allergies were pictured in the game by 12 scenarios and 9 multiple-choice questions. The questionnaires were submitted to 8–12 years old children and their parents during an allergy visit, and analysed in terms of emotional impact, food anxiety and social and food limitations before the children played the game, and 2 months later.

Results: 32 nuts, 8 to 12 years old, allergic children were included, with a girl/boy ratio of 1.16.6. Median age was 9.4 years. Most of them were allergic to only one food (62.5%). 66% suffered from mild systemic reactions (Global score: 2.45 versus 1.97, p = 0.03; emotional impact score: 2.15 versus 1.51, p = 0.04; social limitations: 2.43 versus 1.87, p = 0.03) and among all children in terms of their perception of their ability to manage an allergic reaction (FAIM: 2.27 versus 1.58, p = 0.02).

Conclusion: We could demonstrate that our didactic interactive game was a useful tool to improve their quality of life, especially among children with severe food allergies. Education of food allergic children is an important part of the management of this condition.

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Children with food allergy: Validation of the French version of the Food Allergy Quality of Life Questionnaire-Children Form
1 Paediatric Allergology, CHUV, Lausanne; 2 Paediatric Allergology, HUG, Geneva; 3 General Practice, University Medical Center Groningen, Groningen; 4 Department of Paediatrics, University College, Cork; 5 Epidemiology, CHUV, Lausanne; 6 Paediatrics, CHUV, Lausanne

Background: It has been previously shown with English speaking children that food allergy clearly affects their quality of life. A health-related quality of life questionnaire for food allergic children has been validated in Dutch in 2009, however to date no such questionnaire is available in French. Objectives: To validate the French version of the Food Allergy Quality of Life Questionnaire- Children Form (FAQLQ-CF) developed and validated in Dutch and available in English. Methods: The English version of the FAQLQ-CF was translated by French into two different French-speaking translators and retranslated by an English-speaking translator. We then recruited 32 patients between 8 and 12 years with an IgE mediated food allergy. Children answered the questionnaire during a regular clinic visit. The results obtained were then analysed and compared with the results of the original FAQLQ-CF and the Food Allergy independent Measure (FAIM). Results: 32 questionnaires were fully completed and available for analysis. A Cronbach’s correlation index of 0.67 was found for the total FAQLQ-CF. Validity was demonstrated by significant correlations between FAQLQ-CF and the FAIM. (0.67, p < 0.05). Conclusion: The French version of the FAQLQ-CF was validated and will provide a tool for assessing Quality of Life in French-speaking children with food allergy. It will be an important tool for clinical research and will allow research collaboration between French and English speaking research teams.

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Prevalence of streptococcal pharyngitis in a paediatric emergency department
Pauchard J.Y.1, Verga M.E.1, Gehin M.1, Vaudaux B.1
CHUV-DMCP-Hôpital de l’Enfance

Introduction: Determining the prevalence or the pre-test likelihood probability of disease is the first step in evidence-based practice. It is important for clinicians to know the prevalence of disease to evaluate if a diagnostic test is necessary. We conducted a study to determine the prevalence of group A beta-haemolytic streptococci (GAHS) infection in child who presented sore throat in a paediatric emergency department.

Methods: We included in a prospective study 1500 patients aged 3–18 years with sore throat between January 2010 and March 2011. All children benefited rapid antigen detection test (RAT) and throat culture (gold standard tool). We divided children into 3 subgroups according to age for more accuracy.

Results: Prevalence of GAHS is 45.3% with 95% IC95 (43–48) with throat culture and RAT. Prevalence is variable with age. Group of age of 5–10 years have high prevalence (55%) versus age 3–5 years (<40%) or age 11–18 years (<40%) where prevalence is low. Prevalence is also variable with season. High prevalence occurs in autumn (53%) and low prevalence in others seasons (43%).

Conclusion: This study demonstrates that children who present sore throat in a paediatric emergency department have a high probability of having GAHS pharyngitis and must be tested for GAHS infection. This is valid for all subgroup of children and for all seasons.

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Megalencephalic leuкоencephalopathy with subcortical cysts – a rare cause of macrocephaly and mild gross motor developmental delay
K. Lengnick1, Peter Waibel2, O. Maier3
1Neuro pä diatri e; 2Radiologie Ostschweizer Kinderspital, St. Gallen; 3Schweiz

Introduction: Megalencephalic leukoencephalopathy with subcortical cysts (MLC) is a rare autosomal recessive disease first described by Van der Knaap 1995. It is character-ized by infantile macrocephaly, delayed motor development and early onset of seizures. Mild mental deterioration appears at a later age. Cerebral MRI shows diffusely abnormal and swollen cerebral white matter and subcortical cysts, cerebral atrophy occurs over time. In approximately 70% of MLC patients mutations in the MLC1-gene is found.

Case report: We report a now 3-year-old boy, first child of non-consanguineous and healthy parents, presenting first in our
neuropediatric clinic at the age of 1 year, with progressive macrocephaly, with a head circumference of 35 cm (P.50) at birth and 56 cm (6 cm >P 97) at the age of 1 year. History of pregnancy and birth as well as motor and cognitive development within the first year were unremarkable. Head circumferences of both parents were above P 97. To determine if there is a genetic contribution to macrocephaly we used the “Weaver curve” with calculated standard deviation scores. There was a head circumference 4 standard deviations above the parents’ average score. Glutaracriduria type I could be excluded and there were no clinical signs of elevated intracranial pressure. Because parents were reserved towards further investigations we proposed follow up every 6 months. Over the course the boy showed a normal cognitive development, but slight difficulties in balance. Head circumferences were growing slowly. At the age of 2.5 years we remarked mild problems in motor development with minor overall hypotonia and problems in balance, so that we performed a cerebral MRI to explore the etiology. We reported an unusual MRI by matter and bitemporal subcortical cysts typical for MLC. A routine EEG showed unspecific abnormalities, but no epileptic discharges. Because of the desire of further children we recommended a genetic confirmation, which was performed.

Conclusions: Our case demonstrates a rare cause of severe macrocephaly with only slight disturbances of motor development. Confirmation of the etiology is important for support of the child but also for family planning in consideration of the autosomal recessive inheritance. In children with macrocephaly without syndromic features but signs of developmental delay neuroimaging is warranted because there is a broad spectrum of differential diagnoses. In this context, standard scores and associated curves can be helpful to determine whether a constitutional origin for macrocephaly is likely or not.

Fever in a returning traveller: a journey through tropical medicine

Case Report: A 7 years old girl in good condition presented with fever ten days after her return from a trip in Martinique (area that is not endemic for Malaria). It was accompanied by a non-petechial rash. A tourniquet test was positive (presence of 10 or more petechiae per square inch after inflation to a point between the systolic and diastolic blood pressures for five minutes). The other clinical features were non contributory. Non specific laboratory abnormalities included leucocytosis. Platelet count was normal. A serologic test confirmed the clinical diagnosis.

Discussion: Fever in travellers returning from tropical areas often presents a differential diagnosis challenge for clinicians. Differential diagnoses have a nonspecific presentation. However, there are clinical and laboratory features that could help in diagnosing the most frequent tropical conditions including the travel destination. First of all one must rule out Malaria which is the most frequent imported tropical disease. Signs highly suggestive for Malaria are thrombocytopenia, hyperbilirubinemia, enlarged spleen. When Malaria is ruled out main predictors for rickettsial infection are skin rash, arthritis; for dengue: skin rash, thrombocytopenia, leucopenia and a stay in Latin America or southern Asia/Pacific; for acute schistosomiasis: eosinophilia, enlarged spleen and elevated alanine amino-transferase level. Going through the fevertravel.com guidelines helps make the diagnosis. In the case of our patient, the presence of fever after a stay in Central America accompanied by a rash, was highly suggestive of Dengue Fever. Furthermore the presence of a positive tourniquet test, which determines capillary fragility, helped guide the diagnostic. The dengue NS1 Antigen was negative due to the duration of the symptoms however the dengue NS1 antigen test was positive. Dengue is the most prevalent mosquito-borne viral disease. It’s incidence has grown dramatically around the world in recent decades. It is now endemic in 134 countries with 99% of cases in Asia and the Pacific and 4% in South America. WHO currently estimates there may be 50 million dengue infections worldwide every year including 24 000 deaths due to hemorrhagic complications. In Switzerland there is an increase of the recorded cases with 86 cases in 2018 compared to 8 in 1986 only. Relapse due to the constant increase in international journeys. It is therefore important to recall dengue fever when faced with fever in a returning traveller.

Erythromelalgia (ETM) is characterized by severe, usually paroxysmal burning pain in hands and feet with warmth and redness, relieved by cold water immersion. Secondary ETM can occur in adults with diabetes mellitus, collagen or myeloproliferative disorders, and primary ETM in children and adults harboring a mutation in a sodium channel subunit expressed in sensory neurons (familial or sporadic).

Case report: This previously healthy 6-year-old Caucasian girl presented with sudden onset of attacks of burning pain in both hands and feet after skiing. Progressive increase in severity and frequency of the episodes was noted during the following days, pies in the sleep. Studies revealed a diagnosis of ETM. Intravenous immunoglobulins, intravenous methylprednisolone and chlorpromazine. Electroneurography showed no signs of neuropathy. Osteo-articular and neurological examination including sensory modalities was normal. No swelling, redness or temperature change was observed, except cold skin and maceration due to almost permanent cold water immersion which was avoided. Analgesic drugs including morphine were inefficient. Fortunately, the child improved within 2 months on a combination of gabapentin, mexiletine and chlorpromazine. Electroneurography showed no signs of neuropathy. CSF (day 8) was normal. A large screening for autoimmune, paraneoplastic and metabolic disorders (including Fabry) was negative. Serology for mutation of N1.7 sodium channel negative. Punch skin biopsy (day 74: PGP9.5 immunolabeling with morphometric quantification) showed severe small fiber axonopathy (SFA).

Conclusion: The pathophysiology of ETM is not yet fully understood. SFA may be an important but under-recognized cause. In this case, SFA was found only thanks to a special skin biopsy interpreted by an expert. An autoimmune mechanism as in Guillin-Barré syndrome, which can also affect axons and not only myelinated fibers and more specifically sensory and autonomic nerve-endings, is postulated here. Since remission was obtained, no immunotherapy was given, but this can still be offered in case of relapse. Paroxysmal severe pain attacks are very distressing not only for the patient and family, but also for the caregivers. A psychosomatic origin may be suspected and if not thought of, the diagnosis of ETM can be very difficult.
kidney disease was made. At 29 weeks of gestation, oligohydramnion, mild cardiomegaly and cystic enlargement of the septum pellucidum were additionally found. Amniocentesis disclosed a normal karyotype (46 XX) and fetal MRI confirmed the findings on ultrasound. Because of increased oligohydramnion and abnormal growth retardation, elective caesarean section was performed at 36 1/2 weeks. The hypotrophic girl had a good initial adaptation, diuresis and creatinine were within normal range and ultrasonography showed enlarged, polycystic kidneys. The girl presented a relative macrocephaly, a big and prolapsing fontanelle, flat ears and a generalized muscular hypotonia. Cerebral ultrasound demonstrated bilateral calcification of basal ganglia, an echocardiography revealed ventricular hypertrophy. On the second day of life the girl developed tachypnea, lactacidosis with hyperammonemia and an odor of sweaty feet was noted. A few days later of glutaric aciduria type II was confirmed by organic acids and acyclovirin profile. Therapy with benzozate, carnitine and riboflavin did not improve the condition and in view of the interest of the case, active treatment was terminated. The girl died on third day of life.

Conclusion: Glutaric aciduria type II should always be considered when enlarged kidneys are observed on fetal ultrasonography, especially if there are other organ abnormalities, such as cardiac or cerebral malformations. Prenatal diagnostic possibilities to confirm the diagnosis are available.

Mimicking perinatal infection: Aicardi-Goutières Syndrome

Bucher B1, Wörner A1, Schlabach L1, Abei C1, Steinlin M1, Wiest R1, Nelle M1, McDougall J1
1Department of Pediatrics, University Children’s Hospital of Bern; 2Division of Neuoradiology, Department Radiology, University Hospital of Bern

Introduction: Small-for-gestational age, thrombocytopenia, mild ventriculomegaly, echogenic lenticulostriate vessels and intracranial calcifications are nonspecific findings in neonatology with a broad differential diagnosis covering chromosomal anomalies, infective diseases or they may present the first clue to rare genetic disorders. Here, we present the case of a neonate with Aicardi-Goutières syndrome.

Case report: A female infant was delivered by elective caesarean section at 35 weeks to a 29-year-old primigravida. The parents were consanguineous. The pregnancy was uneventful until the 33rd week when mild ventriculomegaly and growth retardation were diagnosed. A fetal MRI confirmed the ventriculomegaly and showed loss of white matter. Due to a pathological fetal Doppler exam, a pathological fetal MRI. Because of a pathological fetal Doppler exam, a pathological fetal MRI of the factors known to influence the development of hydrocephalus. If both legs are affected, crouch gait with excessive knee and hip flexion is a frequent problem endangering gait function. The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of restricted knee extension during gait in normal individuals and its influence on muscle activity.

Methods: Nine healthy adult female subjects underwent a 3D gait analysis to measure whole body kinematics and lower body kinetics. First the subjects walked with unrestricted knee extension of 90° bilaterally. Then the subjects walked with restricted knee extension of 30° bilaterally accomplished by applying a taping technique to the upper and lower leg. The tape was cut and at least 10 minutes of rest, recordings continued in normal gait. To ensure a consistent frequency and intensity content of the sEMG, the waveform analysis technique as proposed by Von Tschamer [4] was used. The duration of muscle activity (on-off phases) was calculated and expressed in percentage of gait cycle.

Results: The gait pattern with restricted knee extension of 30° resulted in increased anterior thorax and pelvic tilt, hip and knee flexion, and ankle dorsiflexion compared to normal. The duration of muscle activity over the gait cycle, and the normalized amplitude of the sEMG intensity patterns, both increased under restricted knee extension gait pattern for the majority of muscles investigated.

Conclusion: Restricting normal subjects during gait at one level only, their knee extension, resulted in substantial deviations from normal gait with compensatory adjustments observed at all levels. In contrast to the experiment, Patients with cerebral palsy walking with crouch gait usually have pathologies at more than one anatomical level as well as spasticity and muscle weakness. Although comparing our results with patient data will be difficult, the data give us insight into the changes occurring when imposing a single factor known to influence crouch gait [5]. This shows the complexity and challenge of treating patients with crouch gait.

Involvement of autophagy in severe hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy of newborn infant: an autopic study

M.P. Plett1,2, V. Ginet1,2, M.C. Osterhedin, P.G. Clarke1, J.P. Puyal1, A.C. Truttman1
1Service de Néonatologie, Département Médico-Chirurgical de Pédiatrie, CHUV; 2Département de Biologie Cellulaire et de Morphologie, Université de Lausanne; 3Institut Universitaire de Pathologie, CHUV

Introduction: Despite advances in neonatology, perinatal hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy remains a major cause of acute and long-term neurological consequences. Developing more effective neuroprotective strategies requires a better understanding of the
neuronal cell death pathogenesis. Studies derived from neonatal animals models of hypoxia-ischemia (HI) which target both necrosis and apoptosis have demonstrated only limited neuroprotection.

More recently, our and other groups have shown that autophagy, a physiological process of cellular components degradation linked with lysosomes, is enhanced and that its inhibition exhibits neuroprotection in rodent neonatal models of cerebral HI.

**Aims:** The objectives of this study were to determine whether changes in autophagy can be observed following a perinatal asphyxia in autopsied brains of human newborns.

**Material and methods:** Newborns (>36 weeks) who died between 2004–2009 after a perinatal asphyxia were selected retrospectively based on the following criteria: Apgar score ≤5 minutes, metabolic acidosis with cord arterial pH <7.0 at 1 hour of life or a base deficit >12 mmol/l, early onset of clinical encephalopathy Sarnat III and multi-organ failure. Neonates matched for gestational age and died from other conditions were selected as controls. The presence of excessive autophagy was investigated in brain sections (thalamus and basal ganglia) preserved in paraffin blocks by using immunohistochemistry and confocal microscopy. LC3, marker of autophagosomes, was used along with LAMP1 and cathepsin D, two markers of autophagy.

**Results:** The brains of 7 HIE cases (4 males, 3 females) and 6 control cases (3 males, 3 females) were analyzed. Preliminary results showed more than twice the number of LC3 positive dots per neuron in the thalamus of HIE cases compared to control cases. Total numbers of cathepsin D- and LAMP1-positive dots per neuron were significantly higher in HIE than in control cases. The size of cathepsin D- and LAMP1-positive dots was also significantly larger than in control suggesting an increased neuronal formation of autophagosomes.

**Conclusion:** These results suggest an upregulated autophagic flux in the brain of newborns with HIE, as observed in animal models. Neuroprotective strategies targeting autophagy may be considered for future therapeutic approaches in combination with hypothermia to prevent the pathological consequences of HIE.

Infantile exanthematous pustular psoriasis evolving into plaque psoriasis and successful treatment with topical tacrolimus

Valérie Hauser1, Christa Relli2, Jivko Kamarchev2, Lisa Weiβel1,3
1Dermatology Department and 2Division of Infectious Diseases, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 3Dermatology Department, University Hospital Zurich

**Introduction:** Psoriasis in infants below the age of 12 months is very rare and pustular variants particularly uncommon in this age group.

**Methods:** We describe the clinical course and treatment response of a female infant presenting with acute onset of an exanthematous pustular rash.

**Results:** A 7-month-old girl showed a rapidly spreading generalized pustular eruption predominantly affecting her palms and soles. A diaper rash appeared in 2 weeks earlier. The child was otherwise well, there were no signs of systemic infection or fever and the pustules were sterile. The differential diagnosis included pustular psoriasis, acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis or post-streptococcal cephalialgia acuta generalisata. The child was on no medication, investigations were negative for enterovirus, parovirus or streptococcal infection and the family history was negative for psoriasis. The histology of a skin biopsy was consistent with pustular psoriasis. Initial treatment with oral amoxicillin-clavulanic acid and topical mometasone resulted in improvement of the lesions. However after stopping the anti-inflammatory treatment, widespread plaque- and pustular-type psoriasis with a PASI of 11 and nail pitting developed over 8 weeks. Treatment with topical tacrolimus 0.03% ointment once daily and emollients was initiated, which rapidly led to complete resolution of the lesions over the next 2 weeks with residual leukodermia. At the last follow-up 4 months later the patient remained symptom-free.

**Conclusion:** This is a remarkable course of acute onset pustular psoriasis evolving into widespread plaque-type psoriasis in a young infant. Mono-therapy with topical tacrolimus was highly effective and lead to sustained clearance. Topical calcineurin inhibitors represent a useful alternative to corticosteroids in the treatment of childhood psoriasis, in particular in young children and for flexural and facial involvement.

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Neonatal Bartter syndrome spontaneou resolution of all biochemical abnormalities

P. Haberstich1, Ch. Rudini2, M. Konrad2
1Kinderklinik, Kantonsspital Aarau; 2Universitätskinderklinik UKBB, Basel; 3Universitätsklinikum Münster, Deutschland

**Background:** Bartter’s syndrome is a group of renal tubular disorders characterized by hypochloremic metabolic alkalosis, hypokalemia, hyperreninemia with normal blood pressure, and eventually hypercalculia. The neonatal variant has the following additional features: prenatal onset with polyhydramnios, premature delivery, postnatal salt wasting with severe dehydration, constipation and hyperprostaglandinidism. Most children with Bartter’s syndrome have an inherited disorder and the causes are mutations of genes encoding proteins that transport ions across renal cells in the thick ascending limb of Henle’s loop.

**Method:** Case report.

**Results:** Our female patient was born in 2006, at 34 wks of gestation by caesarean section, BW 1690g, APGAR 5/7/9. Antenatally there were no craniofacial dysmorphisms, but the girl presented with marked polyuria and polydipsia. Biochemical investigation showed a hypochloremic metabolic alkalosis with hypokalemia, and hypercalcuria. This in combination with high plasma renin and aldosterone levels and high prostaglandin levels in blood and urine was suggestive of neonatal Bartter’s syndrome. Sequencing of major Bartter genes did not reveal any mutation. The parents were not consanguineous. Renal scanography was normal. Sufficient fluid intake, sodium and potassium supplementation and indomethacin therapy, serum electrolytes normalized. The baby was discharged 4 weeks after birth. Pseduotumor development and growth have been normal since. Hyperreninemia and electrolyte imbalance in urine persisted until the age of 3.5 years but then surprisingly fully normalized. That’s why all medication was stopped at the age of 4.5 years. With the exception of occurrence of mild plasma renin activity increase electrolyte and acid-base balance have remained normal.

**Conclusion:** This girl’s history and laboratory findings were pathognomonic for the neonatal Bartter’s syndrome. The evolution is quite unexpected and surprising but known from other rare reports in literature. One hypothesis might be, that the kidneys of such patients find a way to compensate for the underlying defect.
Follow-up of a newborn with coronary artery fistula (CAF)

Jakob D., Pavlovic M.
Universitätsklinik Kinderklinik Bern

Introduction: Although coronary artery fistula (CAF) is a rare anomaly, with a reported incidence of 0.1%-0.4% of patients with congenital heart disease, it is the most common significant coronary anomaly. In 50-60% of patients, the fistula originates from the right coronary artery, usually draining to the right atrium. However, in 35% of cases, it is associated with other cardiac anomalies. Usually, patients remain asymptomatic until the second or third decade. The recommendations regarding timing and kind of intervention for CAF remain controversial.

Case: In a 3.5-week-old newborn with a continuous heart murmur, a patent arterial duct was suspected. On the initial echocardiography, a CAEF was found, showing a dilated left circumflex coronary draining into the right ventricle. On CTA-Doppler there was a flow of 45 mm Hg. Initially and on follow-up, the ventricles showed a normal function (EF 70%) and no dilatation. Moreover, no signs of ischemia were seen on the ECG and values of troponin T (<0.010, normal range <0.010 μg/l), BNP (<5, normal range <80 pg/ml) and CK-MB (<5, normal range <5 μg/ml) remained normal. Therefore, we decided not to intervene but to follow the baby with ECG and echo. The patient had no signs of heart failure and showed a normal weight gain in 11 months of follow-up.

Conclusion: From the first surgical correction of this malformation, performed in 1947, surgical techniques have evolved. However, in the pediatric population, the decision when to intervene remains difficult. Weighing the risk of an intervention and the spontaneous resolution of the lesion was found, showing a dilated left circumflex coronary draining into the right atrium and a normal weight gain in the 11 month of follow-up.

The skin, the visible omen

Lutz E.1, Fluri S.1, Pavlovic M.1, Cripe C.1, Kemland Lang K.2, Nelle M.2
1Kinderklinik Inselspital Bern; 2Dermatologische Klinik Inselspital Bern, Neonatologie Inselspital Bern

Introduction: Cutis marmorata and telangiectatic congenita (CMCT) is a rare skin disorder which commonly presents directly after birth [1] with telangiectatic erythema, telangiectatic capillary malformation of the skin and neonatal signs of severe fetal anemia, an intra-uterine transfusion was performed at 33 weeks of gestation and the baby was delivered a week later. The neonate was born with a highly positive Coombs test and a total bilirubin of 215 umol/l. Phototherapy was started but the bilirubin decreased only transiently and the baby showed signs of severe hemolysis with clinical instability, low platelets, elevated carboxyhemoglobin and marked extramedullary hematopoiesis. An exchange transfusion was performed in the CAF but the bilirubin continued to increase, up to a maximum of 425 umol/l on the 3rd day of life. The procedure needed to be repeated for a total of 6 times (exchanging 15 times the circulating blood volume) until the bilirubin finally stabilized on the 7th day of life. Moreover, the phototherapy had to be stopped after 24 hours because of a purple coloration of the exposed skin, evolving later to a second degree burn. We attributed the need for repeated exchange transfusions to the fact that a major part of the bilirubin, antibodies and red cell precursors were out of reach in the extravascular compartment. As for the bronze baby reaction, the conjugated bilirubin in the newborn was described in case reports of severe HDN, the massive extramedullary hematopoiesis leading to a transient neonatal porphyria. Porphyrins assays confirmed this diagnosis. The skin lesions and the porphyrins decreased over the three following months.

Conclusion: Severe HDN can lead to a bronze baby syndrome when exposed to phototherapy.
skin lesions, clearly consistent with CMTC, presented mainly localized on the left lower limb up to the left hemi-thorax with slight skin alterations on the right forearm and hand. Because of worsening respiratory distress syndrome and increasing needs in oxygen CPAP support was initiated at 3 hours of age. The chest radiograph was consistent with mild acute respiratory distress syndrome of the newborn. Echocardiography revealed an irrelevant persistent ductus arteriosus and a slightly widened v. cava superior. Blood pressure was adequate for gestational age. Laboratory results showed neither signs of inflammation nor other disorders. Sonography of the brain and abdomen were normal. The infant was extubated within 24h of life and the need of supplemental oxygen persisted until the third day of life. Because he was found to be sweating and his oxygen requirements increasing, we repeated the echocardiography. Total anomalous pulmonary venous return of the non obstructive type was visualized and confirmed by heart catheter investigation.

Discussion: Whether CMTC is an isolated dermatological condition or rather a syndrome with associated anomalies is still under debate [2, 3]. Currently the etiology is not known for this disease but a failure of the development of mesodermic vessels during the early embryonic stage [2] is posited in the literature in conjunction with a genetic predisposition. In our case of CMTC accompanied with the total anomalous pulmonary venous return and the "vessel displacement" in the placenta increta might corroborate these two theories.

Conclusion: Our case illustrates the need for careful investigation of newborns with CMTC. The question, whether there is a common pathphysiological origin of the different diagnosis so far communicated with CMTC, needs to be researched further.

Methods: Systemic inflammation, often associated with premature birth, mechanical ventilation, hyperoxia and inflammation. To better understand the different molecular pathways involved in this disease, we used a newborn rat ventilation model of brochopulmonary dysplasia (BPD) modified (table).

Results: Expression changes were mainly found in genes involved in inflammation and extracellular matrix remodeling. Among them MMP-9 gene and several of its main regulator genes were significantly modified (table).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>qPCR fold changes</th>
<th>Group I Ctrl</th>
<th>Group II LPS</th>
<th>Group III LPS+MV+21%O2</th>
<th>Group IV LPS+MV+60%O2</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>MMP-9</td>
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<td>1.39 ± 0.22*</td>
<td>1.64 ± 0.36*</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAMP</td>
<td>2.22 ± 0.50*</td>
<td>2.04 ± 0.46*</td>
<td>2.78 ± 0.68*</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGAL</td>
<td>1.84 ± 0.08*</td>
<td>2.14 ± 0.21*</td>
<td>2.14 ± 0.20*</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NP4</td>
<td>4.12 ± 0.19*</td>
<td>3.28 ± 0.17*</td>
<td>3.29 ± 0.23*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Values are expressed as mean ± SD from 9 animals/group. *, p < 0.05

Conclusion: MMP-9 gene so far known as an important factor involved in lung development, angiogenesis and tissue repair showing in this model an enhanced expression in lung tissue of rat pups exposed to an accumulation of risk factors for BPD, even 48h after the end of mechanical. Additionally, the expression of other genes enhancing MMP-9 efficiency was also upregulated. Therefore, the role of this molecule and its regulators in the pathophysiology of BPD deserves further investigation.

Regional Perinatal Network of Lausanne: Epidemiology and Characteristics of Neonatal Transport

McEvoy C., Descloux E., Stadelmann Diaw C., Tolsa J.-F., Roth-Kleiner M.
Service de Neonatologie, CHUV, Lausanne

Introduction: The perinatal network of Lausanne, created in the 1960s, can be seen as an example of regionalised perinatal care. It consists of a single tertiary referral centre at the CHUV, engiling both obstetrics and neonatology with its neonatal intensive care unit, ten level II units: Aigle, Morges, Nyon, Payerne, Vevey, Yverdon (Canton Vaud), La Chaux-de-Fond, Fribourg, Neuchâtel, and Sion in neighbouring Cantons and three level I units: two in Lausanne (private clinics) and one in Canton Fribourg (Riaz). A population of about 1.2 million is covered, with 12 000-14 000 births/year. This study investigated the transport activity and the profile of transported neonates over one year (2008).

Methods: This is a retrospective analysis of prospectively collected data on transported neonates regarding administrative and medical information, transport, and timing.

Results: Of the 965 patients admitted to the NICU, 31% (n = 175) were outborn and transported postnatally as emergencies to the CHUV, and 43.4% (n = 245) were retransferred to a peripheral hospital close to the parents’ home after initial stabilisation at the NICU. Reaction time (from initial call to arrival at bedside) shows a median of 55 min (range 18min–4h15). 45% of the transported patients weighed ≥3000 g. Of all emergency transports from ≥3000 g neonates, 60.0% concern term neonates, and 10.9% preterm <32 weeks. Among pathologies inducing transport, respiratory problems arose in 68.6%, complicated prematurity (29.1%), cardiovascular instability (19.4%) and infections (16.6%). Most frequent respiratory diagnoses included wet lung (28.2%), aspiration syndrome (15.4%), hyaline membrane disease (13.7%), pulmonary infections (12.0%) and asphyxia (9.4%).

Conclusion: The high number of retransfers out of the CHUV which outweighs the number of transfers to it reflects that the perinatal network ensures a good turnover as required in a regionalised system. The leading cause for emergency neonatal transfer to a higher level of care are respiratory issues. Further attention should be given to early recognition of risk factors for respiratory distress, in order to anticipate transport, ideally before birth.

Delayed gene expression modifications in a newborn rat ventilation model of brochopulmonary dysplasia

Dénervaud V, Gremlich Inrausch S, Schittny J.C., Roth-Kleiner M.
Service de Neonatologie, CHUV, Lausanne

Introduction: Bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD) is a chronic lung disease affecting preterm infants with potential long term respiratory sequelae. Among its risk factors are premature birth, mechanical ventilation, hyperoxia and inflammation. To better understand the different molecular pathways involved in this disease, we used a newborn rat ventilation model with otorachial intubation to study delayed gene expression modifications after extubation and a ventilation-free interval of 48h.

Methods: Systemic inflammation, often associated with premature birth, was induced by LPS injection intraperitoneally (2 mg/kg) to male rats at postnatal day 4 or 5. Twenty-four hours later they were anesthetized, intubated and ventilated with tidal volume of 15 ml/kg and 21% or 60% O2. After 6h of ventilation, illostrane-anesthesia was weaned and when showing an efficient spontaneous respiration, they were extubated and replaced with their mothers. After a 48h ventilation-free period, gene expression was measured in their lung tissue separately in 4 groups by Affymetrix® Gene-Arrays and verified by qPCR.

Results: Expression changes were mainly found in genes involved in inflammation and extracellular matrix remodeling. Among them MMP-9 gene and several of its main regulator genes were significantly modified (table).
Parental involvement in weight management programs for obese teenagers: Results of a qualitative study

C. Chamay Weber1, N. Camparini1, L. Larza2, N. J. Farpour Lamberet3, F. Nanning1

1Adolescent Medicine Unit, Adolescent and Young Adult Program; 2Pediatric Sports Medicine and Obesity Care Program, Department of Child and Adolescent & Department of Community Medicine and Primary Care, University Hospital of Geneva and University of Geneva, Switzerland

Introduction: Family dynamics are strongly associated with teenagers’ obesity. Our aim was to assess parents’ perceptions before and at the end of a six-month Family-Based Behavioral Treatment (FBBT) program for obese teenagers.

Methods: We conducted a qualitative research including 13 parents in two focus groups, one at the beginning and one at the end of a FBBT program for obese teenagers (12-15 years). Four open ended questions were used to explore parents’ perceptions: 1) What do they think about their parents’ participation in the program? 2) How do they live their child’s obesity? 3) How are family interactions? 4) What can they say about their child’s well-being? Sessions were recorded, transcribed and content analysis was performed.

Results: Preliminary findings indicated that parents felt isolated in regards to their teenager’s obesity. They were scared about psychological and somatic consequences: “it is a lot of suffering,” “it is very serious, and we pass near death, even if we do not think of that”. They were concerned about unification of medical forces and the potential dramatic consequences, we tried to identify the factors that should include parents to relieve their distress of having an obese child, modify family’s interactions and enhance teenager’s autonomy and self-efficacy.

Conclusions: Weight management programs for obese teenagers should include parents to relieve their distress of having an obese child, modify family’s interactions and enhance teenager’s autonomy and self-efficacy.

Fertility Preservation in Female Paediatric Cancer Patients, A Multidisciplinary Approach

Yaron M.1, Beck-Popovic M.1, Girardin C.1, Phan-Hug F.2, Wunder D.3, Primi M.P.4, Feki A.1, Ibecheole V.3, Simon J.P.3, Schwitzguébel V.4, Turello R.5, Bellavia M.6, Ambrosetti A.7, Gomy-Pause F.8

1Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève (HUG); 2Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois (CHUV)

Introduction: Major advances in the treatment of childhood cancer have resulted in a 5-years survival rate of about 78%. Unfortunately, childhood cancer treatments often include chemotherapy (alkylating agents), which results in ovarian dysfunction which may adversely affect fertility. Of all cancer survivors 15% will have compromised reproductive function. Different fertility preservation options (FPO) are available for pubertal patients (sperm banking for males and cryopreservation of embryo/oocyte/spermatozoa). Recently, ovarian tissue cryopreservation (OTC) has emerged as a new experimental option. This technique, available at CHUV and HUG, is proposed to pubertal and prepubertal females. Theoretically, two different options are available once the patient is ready to conceive: ovarian auto-transplantation (experimental method, feasible today) or in vitro maturation of primordial follicles followed by in vitro fertilization (still in research, not feasible nowadays).

Methods: In 2010, two multidisciplinary pediatric teams in CHUV and HUG were formed under the auspices of the “Reseau Romand de Cancer et Fertilité”. Each team consists of pediatricians specialized in oncology, gynaecology, endocrinology, surgery, psychiatry, reproductive medicine, radiation oncology, adolescent medicine and genetics. Once weekly conference meetings are organized during which new oncological cases are presented, with the objectives of determining 1) indications for fertility preservation and 2) the best FPO for the patient. Meetings also provide an opportunity to discuss guidelines, literature, difficult cases and to set up a patient registry to follow up the outcome on the long term.

Results: To date, 9 patients were presented and 3 OTC were realized.

Conclusion: Fertility preservation techniques are now available also for pubertal and prepubertal females and continue to develop. The opportunity to provide accurate information and hope for future fertility in young cancer patients is invaluable. In view of the paucity of cases, only unification of medical forces will enable us to offer for each of our patients the best possible care.
led to these critical incidents and establish a new internal procedure to avoid such errors. **Description:** Failed neonatal GT were defined as follow: 1) complete absence of the GT, 2) GT performed outside the normal time frame, or 3) GT performed inappropriately. We encountered one occurrence where 3 GT cards were mistakenly sent 2 weeks later, therefore delaying any benefits of a potential treatment. In 2 other cases, the resident wrongly assumed that a patient transferred from nursery to the pediatric department had his GT done in the nursery (intra-hospital transfer).

**Discussion and conclusion:** Assuming that GT has already been performed, during inter- or intra-hospital transfers represents the most common and serious type of failure GT in our experience. In order to tighten the procedure safety, we have created a new algorithm. It is now mandatory for the resident to obtain the GT results for any safety net procedures and avoid such pitfalls, especially during transplants.

A four-month-old infant was admitted with hypoxic superinfected bronchiolitis and failure to thrive. The evolution was atypical with 25 days of oxygen supplementation before discharge. He was readmitted 4 days later with a sepsis-like clinical picture associated with *Rotavirus* gastroenteritis. He then developed respiratory symptoms again with need of CPAP and oxygen therapy. The nasopharyngeal secretions showed persistence of *Rsv* and bronchiolitis was complicated with a bacterial superinfection. One week later a *Parainfluenza 3* virus was isolated in the nasopharyngeal secretions, coinciding with a new respiratory deterioration. An immunodeficiency disease was suspected on the base of the recurrent viral infections with atypical evolution and failure to thrive. Laboratory investigations showed lymphopenia (below 3.154 G/L) and hypogammaglobulinemia. Further immunologic investigations revealed a T+B+NK - SCID syndrome and bone Xrays were suggestive of CHH which was molecularly proven by RMRP gene analysis.

Infants affected by SCID commonly present within the first six months of life with recurrent or persistent infections, e.g. gastroenteritis (*Rotavirus, Adenovirus, Enterovirus. etc*), pneumonia (*Pneumocystis Jiroveci, RSV, Parainfluenzavirus, etc*), bacterial sepsis and failure to thrive. SCID patients are usually lymphopenic (<2 G/L). The different SCID syndromes are treated effectively by hematopoietic stem cell transplantation which is in preparation for this patient.

**Conclusion:** Don’t lose SCID when facing an infant with persistent or recurrent episodes of viral infections with atypical evolution! Lymphopenia is a consistent feature. CHH is one classical condition associated with SCID.

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**ABC1** gene polymorphisms and neuropsychiatric adverse events in oseltamivir-treated children during influenza H1N1/09 pandemic: a cohort study


**Introduction:** Oseltamivir, a substrate of P-glycoprotein (P-gp), has been associated with neuropsychiatric adverse events (NPAE) in children. We examined the safety profile of oseltamivir and evaluated the impact of P-gp (ABC1) polymorphism on the incidence of NPAE in oseltamivir-treated children during the H1N1/09 pandemic. **Methods:** This prospective cohort study was conducted between October 1st, 2009 and January 31st, 2010. All children <18 y.o. presenting at the emergency department with a flu-like illness were eligible for inclusion. Adverse events were systematically recorded using a diary card, with a 30 days follow-up. Causality of oseltamivir in NPAE was performed by pharmacologists. Patients were genotyped for ABC1 C343ST and G2677T/A polymorphisms. **Results:** Among the 42 H1N1-infected, oseltamivir-treated children who were genotyped for ABC1 C343ST=T and 2677T/A variants, 36% presented NPAE possibly related to oseltamivir. Frequency of NPAE displayed a "genotype-trend effect" with the mutant and the wild type subgroups at the two fare ends. Eleven percent of the 2677TG-3435CC individuals (mutant homozygous) presented NPAE, compared to 39% of the individuals being heterozygote for at least one variant allele and 67% of the 2677TT-3435TT individuals (mutant homozygous) are. **Conclusion:** A higher incidence of NPAE in oseltamivir-treated patients than previously reported. This could be due to the fact that we actually investigated NPAE. Diploidy 2677TT-3435TT might increase the patient’s vulnerability to NPAE, maybe as a result of an enhanced permeability of the blood-brain-barrier to oseltamivir.

**Case report:** Lethal outcome of persistent pulmonary hypertension in a newborn

Jacobi D., Schnäfer S.C., Casaulta C., Riedel T.

**Introduction:** Persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn (PPHN) occurs in 1–2 newborn per 1000 live birth. The majority suffers from secondary pulmonary hypertension caused by congenital heart disease or lung disease. Rarely PPHN origins from a primary cause such as *lymphangioleiomyomatosis* or pulmonary alveolar proteinosis (PAP). We present a case of a primary pulmonary hypertension caused by PAP.

**Case report:** Our patient was born at term and adapted well after uncomplicated pregnancy. After 4 hours he progressively developed respiratory distress, and was intubated. Chest radiography revealed hypoxic heart disease or lung disease. Rarely PPHN origins from a primary cause such as *lymphangioleiomyomatosis* or pulmonary alveolar proteinosis (PAP). We present a case of a primary pulmonary hypertension caused by PAP.

**Discussion:** Failed neonatal GT were defined as follow: 1) complete absence of the GT, 2) GT performed outside the normal time frame, or 3) GT performed inappropriately. We encountered one occurrence where 3 GT cards were mistakenly sent 2 weeks later, therefore delaying any benefits of a potential treatment. In 2 other cases, the resident wrongly assumed that a patient transferred from nursery to the pediatric department had his GT done in the nursery (intra-hospital transfer).

**Conclusion:** Assuming that GT has already been performed, during inter- or intra-hospital transfers represents the most common and serious type of failure GT in our experience. In order to tighten the procedure safety, we have created a new algorithm. It is now mandatory for the resident to obtain the GT results for any safety net procedures and avoid such pitfalls, especially during transplants.

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**Discussion:** Infants affected by SCID commonly present within the first six months of life with recurrent or persistent infections, e.g. gastroenteritis (*Rotavirus, Adenovirus, Enterovirus. etc*), pneumonia (*Pneumocystis Jiroveci, RSV, Parainfluenzavirus, etc*), bacterial sepsis and failure to thrive. SCID patients are usually lymphopenic (<2 G/L). The different SCID syndromes are treated effectively by hematopoietic stem cell transplantation which is in preparation for this patient.

**Conclusion:** Don’t lose SCID when facing an infant with persistent or recurrent episodes of viral infections with atypical evolution! Lymphopenia is a consistent feature. CHH is one classical condition associated with SCID.

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**Infants with just another viral infection?**


Hôpital du Valais – CHCVs, site hospitalier de Sion; *HUG, Hôpital des Enfants, Genève; *Universitätsskinderkliniken, Zürich

**Introduction:** Despite common occurrence in children, viral infections can sometimes be the presenting feature of immunodeficiency disorders. We report a patient with recurrent and persistent viral infections caused by a Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) syndrome and revealing the skeletal dysplasia Cartilage-Hair Hypoplasia (CHH).

**Case report:** A four-month-old infant was admitted with hypoxic superinfected bronchiolitis and failure to thrive. The evolution was atypical with 25 days of oxygen supplementation before discharge. He was readmitted 4 days later with a sepsis-like clinical picture associated with *Rotavirus* gastroenteritis. He then developed respiratory symptoms again with need of CPAP and oxygen therapy. The nasopharyngeal secretions showed persistence of *Rsv* and bronchiolitis was complicated with a bacterial superinfection. One week later a *Parainfluenza 3* virus was isolated in the nasopharyngeal secretions, coinciding with a new respiratory deterioration. An immunodeficiency disease was suspected on the base of the recurrent viral infections with atypical evolution and failure to thrive. Laboratory investigations showed lymphopenia (below 3.154 G/L) and hypogammaglobulinemia. Further immunologic investigations revealed a T+B+NK - SCID syndrome and bone Xrays were suggestive of CHH which was molecularly proven by RMRP gene analysis.

**Discussion:** Infants affected by SCID commonly present within the first six months of life with recurrent or persistent infections, e.g. gastroenteritis (*Rotavirus, Adenovirus, Enterovirus. etc*), pneumonia (*Pneumocystis Jiroveci, RSV, Parainfluenzavirus, etc*), bacterial sepsis and failure to thrive. SCID patients are usually lymphopenic (<2 G/L). The different SCID syndromes are treated effectively by hematopoietic stem cell transplantation which is in preparation for this patient.

**Conclusion:** Don’t lose time and think SCID when facing an infant with persistent or recurrent episodes of viral infections with atypical evolution! Lymphopenia is a consistent feature. CHH is one classical condition associated with SCID.
Both were treated with IVIG for 5 days followed several days later by gradual improvement. Despite normal CSF, case 1 was diagnosed as GBS because of the pertinent clinical history and the electromyography result. Case 2 was diagnosed as MFS because of the clinical history and the positive immunological test for ganglioside's antibodies (GQ1b and GM1).

**Discussion:** GBS should be suspected by clinical presentation. CSF analysis is clinically relevant, it may be abnormal in the early phase and shows elevated protein level in 90% of patients at clinical nadir and in 50% of MFS cases. Most cases occur weeks after an infection. Campylobacter infection is frequently associated with these diseases, is known to have similar epitopes as the gangliosides (GM1, GD1, and GQ1b). Anti-GQ1b antibodies are present in 95% of acute MFS. Although MFS is generally a benign, self-limiting condition with almost all patients return to normal activities within 6 months, GBS has a serious long-term impact and recovery is slow and may take years.

**Mitochondrial disease due to TMEM70 mutation in a neonate with early onset hypotonia**

Giannakoura A., Bonali L., Marcoz J-P., Cheseaux J-J., Llor J., Wehri U., Tabin R.1,3

1Hôpital du Valais – CHCVs – site hospitalier de Sion; 2DMCUP, Unité métaboloquique, CHUV, Lausanne; 3Cabinet médical, Sierre

**Introduction:** Mitochondrial diseases constitute a heterogeneous group of disorders. Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and nuclear DNA (nDNA) mutations are responsible for the diminished production of mitochondrial ATP synthase (complex V) [1]. The phenotype exhibits common traits like hypotonia, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCMP) and hypospadias, with variable phenotypic severity in the newborn period. A significant lag in weight development (P <3) was observed, despite normal CSF, case 1 was diagnosed as MFS because of intense pain in the fingers and toe's extremities with fever following a documented diarrhoea. The clinical history and the positive immunological test for ganglioside's antibodies (GQ1b and GM1). Anti-GQ1b antibodies are present in 95% of acute MFS. Although MFS is generally a benign, self-limiting condition with almost all patients return to normal activities within 6 months, GBS has a serious long-term impact and recovery is slow and may take years.

**Case report:** We present a case of a healthy full-term born boy with 1. A 6 years old boy presented with 2 episodes of right foot arthritis and one episode of finger inflammation within one month. He complains also of hip pain. He had fever, elevated ESR and positive streptococcal throat swab with elevated ASLO titers (first episode: 2460 U/ml; second episode: 3520 U/ml). Cardiac investigations were normal. He was treated by antibiotics and ibuprofen with resolution of the symptoms. 2. A 9 years old boy presented with dysphagia and, after a few days course, with fever and diffuse arthralgias and myalgias. He was admitted to hospital with typical symptoms of streptococcal infection. He was treated by antibiotics and ibuprofen with resolution of the symptoms. 3. A 6 years old boy presented with 2 episodes of right foot arthritis and one episode of finger inflammation within one month. He was treated by antibiotics and ibuprofen with resolution of the symptoms. 4. A 9 years old boy presented with dysphagia and, after a few days course, with fever and diffuse arthralgias and myalgias. He was admitted to hospital with typical symptoms of streptococcal infection. He was treated by antibiotics and ibuprofen with resolution of the symptoms. 5. A 6 years old boy presented with 2 episodes of right foot arthritis and one episode of finger inflammation within one month. He was treated by antibiotics and ibuprofen with resolution of the symptoms. 6. A 9 years old boy presented with dysphagia and, after a few days course, with fever and diffuse arthralgias and myalgias. He was admitted to hospital with typical symptoms of streptococcal infection. He was treated by antibiotics and ibuprofen with resolution of the symptoms. 7. A 6 years old boy presented with 2 episodes of right foot arthritis and one episode of finger inflammation within one month. He was treated by antibiotics and ibuprofen with resolution of the symptoms. 8. A 9 years old boy presented with dysphagia and, after a few days course, with fever and diffuse arthralgias and myalgias. He was admitted to hospital with typical symptoms of streptococcal infection. He was treated by antibiotics and ibuprofen with resolution of the symptoms.
The Australian Triage Score (ATS) – Impact on waiting time in our emergency department

Jünnemann S., Igleswton I.
Notfallstation, Östschweizer Kinderspital, St. Gallen

Introduction: The number of consultations in the emergency department (ED) has increased worldwide over the past years. In response triage score systems were introduced in most pediatric emergency departments. Swiss pediatric emergency physicians opted for the Australian Triage Score (ATS), which was developed in EDs with up to 40'000 consultations/year. In contrast Swiss EDs are smaller and distances are shorter. The aim of this study was to examine the impact of the ATS on the waiting time.

Methods: During May 2008 data was prospectively collected through a parents based anonymous questionnaire at the ED of the Children's Hospital St. Gallen. From 600 questionnaires 320 were returned (response 53%). Additionally, the nursing documentations from the same period were evaluated retrospectively (n = 1028).

Results: 320 questionnaires were included. A waiting time less than 30min until the first physician contact was shown in 72% (ATS 2), 76% (ATS 3), 73% (ATS 4) and 61% (ATS 5). More than 60min waiting time for the first contact had 11% (ATS 2), 5% (ATS 3), 9% (ATS 4) and 9% (ATS 5). The time of day had no influence on waiting time. Waiting time was independent of time of day, surgical vs medical treatment or whether the patient was discharged home vs kept in hospital.

Conclusion: In our study, triage score had only a small influence on the waiting time. Overall, the waiting time was quite short - including patients with a triage score 4 or 5. Performing ATS properly is time-consuming for the nurse. Triage also leads to a delayed first physician contact. A simpler triage system would relieve the nurse and shorten waiting time. In Switzerland we have smaller EDs, shorter distances and more human resources compared with Australia. This should be considered for selecting an adequate triage system.

Parents' relationship with their child's provider: more just than the just transition from pediatric to adult health care

A. Mialon1, C. Rabbitsauser2, C. Akre1, JC. Sun1
1UMSP CHUV; 2Universitats-Kinderspital Zürich

Introduction: Transition from pediatric to adult health care is a determinant period for adolescents with chronic diseases. Parents also have to go through multiple adjustments during this period. Knowing that they can influence transition success, parents are privileged partners for the health professionals. In this context, the aim of this study is to assess, in pre- and post-transition parents, the differences in their ease with their child's specialist provider, as a possible marker of transition success.

Methods: We divided parents in pre- (N = 311) and post-transition (N = 85) groups to compare their feeling at ease with their child's specialist provider for adolescent's age, gender, recruiting hospital, speciality, illness status, disease severity, and the adolescents' ease with their specialist and readiness for transition. All statistically significant variables at the bivariate level were then included in a logistic regression.

Results: 87% of parents felt at ease with their child's specialist provider in the pre-transition group, whereas only 39% in post-transition (P < 0.001). From the parents' point of view 86% of adolescents were at ease with their specialist in pre-transition, compared to 70% in post-transition (P = 0.001). The difference in parents' ease remained significant when controlling for potential confounders (Adjusted OR 0.206, 95% CI 0.076-0.556).

Conclusions: Parents in the post-transition group are significantly less comfortable with their child's specialist provider than those in pre-transition. Parents of chronically ill adolescents have to go through a double transition: health care transition occurring at the same time than their child's emancipation. This can be a source of anxiety for parents who may feel excluded from the care process. Confused feelings regarding the adult specialist and reactive overprotection of their child can preclude the transition process. Support and preparation of the parents, as well as an increased provider's awareness concerning this double transition could enhance transition success.

Cullen Sign in a 3-year-old child with acute severe pancreatitis

David Wille1, Eva-Maria Tinner1, Regula Angel2, Eva Kühlwein1
1Abt. für Intensivmedizin und Neonatologie, Kinderspital Zürich – Universitätsskinderkliniken; 2Abt. für pädiatrische Hämatologie, Onkologie, Kinderklinik, Kantonsospital Aarau

Acute pancreatitis is known to be a possible complication of chemotherapy in children treated for acute lymphoblastic leukemia. PEG L-Asparaginase, widely used today in induction and intensification of anti-leukemic therapy, is especially implicated to cause acute pancreatitis. We report the case of a 3-year-old patient with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, who presented in severe neutropenia with fatigue and vomiting and subsequent circulatory and respiratory instability during his induction protocol on day 43 (according to ALL-BFM 2000 protocol IA) six days after stopping the prednisone and 17 days after receiving his second dose of PEG L-Asparaginase. On the second day of symptoms the boy developed periumbilical ecchymosis, the Cullen sign, which is not specific but commonly described in association with acute hemorrhagic pancreatitis in adults. There is a sign for the expansion of the retroperitoneal inflammatory process and hemorrhage, occurs in about 3% of adult acute pancreatitis and is associated with a increased mortality. In this case the Cullen sign led to the diagnosis of acute severe exudative pancreatitis and cardiopulmonary instability. To our knowledge this is the first report to describe the Cullen sign in a child. Clinical "textbook" signs, if known, can be very useful in guiding the diagnosis.

Interactive education for asthmatic children: Which effect on emergency visits and quality of life?

Verga M.E.1, Stoky Hess A.1, Verga J.1, Gehri M.1
1CHUV-site Hôpital de l'Enfant, Lausanne

Introduction: Many approaches of education about asthma exists but there is no evidence of their effectiveness because of the heterogeneity of practices. The aim of the study was to evaluate the impact of asthma School (therapeutic education) on quality of life. We also assessed the number of medical visits in asthma patients.

Methods: We included in a prospective longitudinal study every child aged 4 to 12 years old and their parents attending asthma school during one year and followed them at 6 months. Quality of life visits in asthma school was evaluated through focus groups and the Pediatric Asthma Quality of Life Questionnaire (PAQLQ) at inclusion and 6 months after. Number of emergency visits, medical appointments and number of hospitalizations during the year before and after Asthma School were assessed with a questionnaire to the paediatricians.

Results: 27 children and their parents were included. Mean age was 7.02 years. Quality of life improved in all domains evaluated by the PAQLQ (score of 6.15 vs 6.78). Paediatric visits, emergency visits and hospitalizations decreased significantly between the year before and the year after Asthma School.

Conclusion: Interactive education about asthma improves clinically important outcomes and quality of life of children and their families.

MEN 2B – early recognition of this syndrome allows to prevent medullary thyroid cancer

Michele Sauteur1, Felix Niggli1, Eugen Schönöle1, Sabine Kries1
1University Children's Hospital of Zurich, Division of Oncology; 2University Children's Hospital of Zurich, Division of Endocrinology

Background: Multiple endocrine neoplasias (MEN) include several distinct syndromes predisposing to tumors of endocrine glands, each with its own characteristic phenotype. MEN syndromes are inherited in an autosomal dominant manner. MEN type 2 (MEN 2; incidence 1:35'000) is characterized by phaeochromocytoma, medullary thyroid cancer (MTC) and other manifestations. MEN 2B accounts for 20% of all MEN 2 diagnoses. In MEN 2B diagnosis at-a-ounce is possible because of its typical clinical phenotype and recognition pattern.

Case report: An 8-year-old girl presented with an enlarged thyroid gland and further clinical symptoms. In her personal history there were orthopaedic problems with a hypoplasia of the lower left leg. Additionally, the girl had a short stature and bowel complaints. Her phenotype included a marfanoid habitus, prominent lips, small papules along the eyelids and nodules on the tip of the tongue. Blood tests showed a normal thyroid function and an elevated calcitonin, indicating C-cell hyperplasia. Ultrasound and MRI of the thyroid gland revealed bilateral tumors, the largest with 25 mm in diameter. Several cervical lymph nodes were enlarged. Since the clinical phenotype had been suggestive of MEN 2B, genetic testing for MEN 2B was performed. A mutation in the MEN2B gene (10q11.2 confirmed the diagnosis. This made MTC in association with MEN 2B most likely. Therefore total thyroidectomy and radical bilateral surgery were performed.
screening for primary ciliary dyskinesia by nasal NO measurement
K. Koenigstein1,2, S. Froehlich3, C. Geide6, K.-H. Stifter1, T. Nusslein4, R. Launen5, A. Jung6
1Universität des Saarlandes, Homburg/Saar, Germany; 2Hochgebirgsklinik Davos, Switzerland; 3Gemeinschaftsklinik Kobe
Mainz, Germany; 4Christine Kühne-Center for Allergy Research and Education (CK-CARE), Davos, Switzerland
Background: The prevalence of primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD) is currently estimated at 1:20,000 to 1:60,000. However, recent data
suggest that these figures are largely underestimated (Kuehni CE et al. 2010). Determination of nasal NO (nNO) has meanwhile been established in every paediatric respiratory
center. For preschool children, measurement of nNO via a tidal
breathing technique using a straw has been validated (Jung et al. 2011). Early PCD diagnosis results in lower frequency of respiratory complications including surgical procedures, prevents unnecessary therapies and permits focused therapeutic interventions.
Methods: Screening for PCD by nNO can result in optimized and
early diagnosis and consequently to a correction of PCD prevalence.
In families with MEN 2B syndrome, PCD is currently detected by nasal NO. In cases of PCD, diagnostic testing is performed after birth and thyroidectomy is done by the age of six months.
Further periodic controls are recommended for detection of phaeochromocytoma and relapse of MTC, respectively.

Potential pitfalls in neonatal DRG
P 94
Z. Papandreou, J. Stettler, M. Tomase
Department of Pediatrics, Stadtspital Triemli Zürich
Introduction: In 2001, diagnosis related financing (diagnosis related group, DRG) will be introduced in Switzerland. In newborns, DRG coding serving as a basis for reimbursement by health insurance programs is highly related to admission weight as well as diagnostic categories. We aim to reassess potential pitfalls of the APDRG system related to coding as well as b) expenses due to insufficient cover ratio of frequent neonatal ICD codes in low DRG weights.
Methods: DRG coding was performed for neonates (age less than 28 days) admitted to our secondary neonatal care center born between 2008–2009. Actual costs were compared to future reimbursement under DRG. Moreover, medical coding was compared with diagnoses identified in comprehensive medical charts.
Results: During the study period, a total of 733 neonates were enrolled. In four substantial coding related mistakes were observed: DRG classification did not match the actual admission weight of ≥2500 g in 69 children (9%) due to a software problem. A total of 105 (14%) sick neonates discharged to the obstetric ward after ≥1.9 ± 12 days for better bonding with their mothers were wrongly coded as healthy children and allocated to the midwifery. Moreover, in 12 children (2%) no DRG coding was performed. With regard to expenses, insufficient cover ratio was observed in 2 common diagnoses for newborn: severe respiratory distress syndrome (ICD P93.9) and congenital heart disease (ICD P75.9). Insufficient cover ratio: 64% with empiric antibiotic treatment, especially due to high outlers (n = 15; 19%; and n = 7; 23%, respectively and ICM P51.5). Insufficient cover ratio: 64% with empiric antibiotic treatment, especially due to high outlers (n = 13; 13% and n = 6; 10%, respectively). Interestingly, in neonates with opiate withdrawal syndrome, insufficient cover ratio was favourable (n = 13, cover ratio: 108%) even though all were high outliers (days on neonatal ward: 50.5 ± 18.2).
Conclusion: DRG system in neonates requires increased attention on correctness in admission weight registration. Moreover, strategies for early discharge to the obstetric ward for improved bonding with their mothers seem to be incompatible with DRG. Cost-effective strategies especially for neonates in low DRG weights with common diagnoses, including a shortened stay, seem to be mandatory.

Familial precariousness in a pediatric emergency department: a inventory of the major phenomena of precariousness
P 95
Spisarski F, Puema M-J., Toulou-Abah C., Guzman M., Sanchez C., Gehri M.
CHUV-DMC-Hôpital de l’Enfance Lausanne
Introduction: In the major phenomena of precariousness concerning families consulting at the Emergency department of the Children Hospital of Lausanne.
Methods: Exploratory study including 60 families. A interview focusing on medical, social, psychological, economic and cultural data has been developed by a multidisciplinary team under the label «Rapid Assessment Process». Vulnerabilities have been identified and quantified in 5 key-dimensions and the overall level of familial precariousness was defined by combining the results of the 5 dimensions and classified in 4 subgroups: absent, recognized, unrecognized and absolute.
Results: Prevalence of familial precariousness is 82%. Precarious families often consult spouse, but consult spouse for general pediatric care issues. Children are mostly healthy and have adequate medical supervision, but a high prevalence of overweight and obesity, increasing in proportion to the family precarious level found. Migrant families are strongly represented in emergency department (81%) and are mostly in a precarious situation. The status of asylum seeker, sending money home, a high prevalence of precarious job and communication difficulties are the main reasons cited to explain the high precarious level among migrant families.
Conclusion: This study demonstrates a high prevalence of precariousness in families consulting at the pediatric emergency department of the CHL. It also provides valuable information on the socio-cultural pattern and on specific health consumption mode by precarious

Pleural tap-guided antimicrobial treatment of pleuropneumonia can be limited to 14 days
Kerstin Ruoss1, Christian Kellenberger2, David Nadal3, Christoph Berger4
1Division of Infectious Diseases and Department of Radiology, University Children’s Hospital
Background: Management and antimicrobial treatment of childhood pleuropneumonia is not standardised. Antibiotic treatment for up to 3 months has been advocated.
Objective: To determine the outcome of pleuropneumonia treated with amoxicillin/clavulanic acid (amoxi-clav, 80 (po) – 100 (iv) mg/kg/d for 14 days) and to evaluate pleural tap yielding bacteria susceptible to amoxi-clav or no bacterial growth.
Methods: In patients with pleuropneumonia blood cultures were performed to guide antibiotic therapy, and pleural tap for bacterial yield. Bacterial yield was assessed by using chest X-ray or computed tomography (CT), and amoxi-clav was started for 14 days as per protocol. Follow-up included chest X-ray or CT after ≥3 months.
Results: 34 of 63 children first presented with pleuropneumonia (group A) and 29 with pneumonia and subsequent pleural effusion (group B). 11 children were excluded, 4 died and 19 were lost to follow-up. 33 children were included, 20 from group A median age 5.2 months (range 25 days – 11.3 months), 13 from group B: median age 5.7 years, group A children were younger and had lower median initial weight (1400 vs 2500). An initial chest X-ray was performed in all children. Bacterial yield was positive in 11 children (14.5%). Pleural fluid cultures from 4 children grew Streptococcus pneumoniae, from

4. Streptococcus pyogenes, and from 2 Staphylococcus aureus. Blood cultures from 4 additional children grew S. pneumoniae. All isolates were susceptible to amoxi-clav. 13 children from group A and 7 from group B received a chest drain (p = 0.28). Median hospitalisation in group A was 14.5 days and in group B 9 days (p <0.01). Follow-up 3–5 months later showed clinical recovery in all children, residual pleural scars in 6 patients from group A and 6 from group B, two children from group B: radiologically resolved 5 months later and one (group A) with a bulla after intubation and bronchopulmonary fistula.
Conclusion: Pleuropneumonia treated with amoxi-clav 14 days from tap clinically resolved in all but one child. Limiting antibiotic treatment to 14 days following microbiologic diagnostic pleural tap is safe.
families. Finally, this study opens the perspective of a familial screening tool for precariousness that could be used by health care teams after a further validation.

Implementation and evaluation of a therapeutic educational multidisciplinary program within the paediatric clinic for cystic fibrosis

Y. Kemeni1, C. Durussel2, P. Ballaben2, G. Hafeni2
1Department of Paediatrics, Cystic Fibrosis Center, University Hospital Lausanne, CHUV, Switzerland, 2Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine, University Hospital Lausanne, CHUV and University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Purpose of therapeutic education (TE) is to improve the understanding of the disease, its complications and needs for treatment.

Objective: implementation and evaluation of TE in the CF pediatric department in Lausanne.

Method: Patients were followed on their regular 3-month basis over 2 years. Interventional education took place at each visit and assessment every year. At visit 1, patient and CF team agree on an educational diagnosis leading to a contract. This allows defining the content of educational program, according to patient, family and CF team expectations. We used conductors created and validated by the GETHEM, in France.

Primary endpoint: Slowing of FEV1 and FEF25–75% slope decrease. Secondary: Benefit on quality of life (CFQ) and evolution of disease knowledge. We compared study to non-study subjects. This was an open interventional study. All patients ≥6 years of age followed at the pediatric CF department were included.

Results: Out of the 36 patients followed over 16 years, 17 accepted the study, 15 denied and were used as control. For FEV1, evolution was positive over time of study with a gain of 5.3 % in the study group versus a fall of 3.6% in the control group (p <0.02). For FEF 25–75%, evolution was even better with a gain of 8.3 versus a fall of 0.5% in the control group (p <0.05). In the study group, scores of knowledge obtained were between 22 and 28 (maximal score), instead of 15 and 27 in the control group. For CFQ data were not covening a large sample size for statistical analysis.

Conclusion: This program was very well accepted by patients and their family. Despite very small number of patients, there is a clear trend to improvement of lung functions as well as knowledge of the disease over the study period.

Possible role of Delta-like 1 homolog (drosophila) in the development of chemoresistance in Neuroblastoma

M. Flahaut, A. Coulon, K. Nardou, A. Mühlenthaler-Mottet, N. Gross
Paediatric Oncology Research, Paediatric Department, University Hospital CHUV, 1011 Lausanne

Introduction: As in other cancers, the development of chemoresistance represents a major obstacle in the successful treatment of high grade neuroblastoma (NB). NB is the most frequent extracranial paediatric solid tumour and a particularly heterogeneous and devastating disease.

Methods: To address the mechanisms underlying the chemoresistant phenotype in NB, we have analyzed the gene expression profile of doxorubicin-resistant cells (LAN-1-R) compared to the sensitive parental LAN-1 cell line.

Results: This analysis allowed us to identify DLK1 as a moderately, but significantly, overexpressed gene in the resistant variants. DLK1, a member of the Notch/delta/serrate family, is expressed in several embryonic tissues and in adult adrenal glands. DLK1 is also highly expressed in neuroendocrine tumours such as NB, suggesting a possible involvement in the development of the disease. We confirmed the increase in DLK1 expression by real-time quantitative PCR in LAN-1-R vs the non-resistant LAN-1 cells with a 5.2-fold stimulation. Higher amounts of DLK1 protein were detected on total LAN-1-R cell extracts as measured by Western blot, as well as released in resistant LAN-1-R cells culture fluid as compared to non-resistant LAN-1 cells. Overexpression of DLK1 in the LAN-1 sensitive cell line highly influenced the proliferative behaviour of these cells without modifying their drug sensitivity. In contrast, silencing of DLK1 in the LAN-1-R cell line by lentiviral-mediated microadapted shRNA restored caspase-3 activation upon different drug treatments, suggesting a role of DLK1 in the drug resistant phenotype of the LAN-1-R cell line.

Conclusion: Our data which fully support a recent report, implicating DLK1 in enhanced tumorigenic and undifferentiated characteristics of NB cells, further propose a role for DLK1 in their multi-drug resistant phenotype. These observations which associate DLK1 to multiple mechanisms leading to the particularly malignant behaviour of NB deserve further investigation.

Infant colitis – keep in mind defects of innate immunity!

Waespe N.1, Marx G.2, Beier R.1, Kotlarz D.1, Klein C.2, Gündog T.1
1Kinderspital Zürich, Division of Immunology and BMT, 2Ostschweizer Kinderklinik St. Gallen, Division of Gastroenterology; 1Medizinische Hochschule Hannover, Division of Experimental Oncology

Introduction: Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is a rare event in infancy usually called Crohn’s disease, ulcerative colitis or indeterminate colitis without precise knowledge of the underlying etiology. The differential diagnoses of primary immunodeficiencies (PID) (e.g. chronic granulomatous disease, IL-10 receptor defect, IPEX syndrome) are important since patients with PID may remain therapy-refractory or steroid-dependent after conventional treatment and only allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) is curative.

Case Report: We present the case of a child of consanguineous origin who showed clinical signs of IBD from early infancy with steroid-dependent chronic colitis, perianal fistula leading to multiple abdominal surgical interventions and unusual complications (e.g. intestinal perforation). Under immunosuppression, the patient developed CMV and EBV primary infections below the age of 2 years leading to partial lung resection. Different treatment modalities (anti-TNF-alpha antibodies, azathioprine, tacrolimus) were administered to cure IBD but the patient’s disease continued to thrive remaining a major problem leading to osteoporosis and consecutive vertebral fractures. Finally, at the age of 5 years, the underlying immunodeficiency was discovered and I0 receptor mutation leading to insufficient IL-10 signalling. We performed allogeneic HSCT from a mismatched healthy donor with improvement of colitis despite complete tapering of steroids. After HSCT, serious complications were observed, e.g. viral infections and reactivations (HHV6, ADV, BK, CMV).

Conclusion: Our case illustrates that defects of the innate immunity should be kept in mind as important causes of IBD in infancy. Early allogeneic HSCT may be beneficial to prevent morbidity and mortality and is often curative.

Involvement of the CXCL12/CXCR4/CXCR7 axis in the malignant progression of human neuroblastoma

J. Liberman1, M. Flahaut, A. Mühlenthaler-Mottet2, A. Coulon3, J.M. Joseph2, N. Gross1,³
1Paediatric Oncology Research Unit, University Hospital, CHUV, Lausanne, Switzerland, 2Paediatric Surgery Unit, University Hospital, CHUV, Lausanne, Switzerland

Neuroblastoma (NB) is a devastating childhood neoplasm for which no efficient treatment is available for high stage tumours. Chemokines and their receptors, in particular the CXCR4/CXCL12 axis, have been involved in tumour progression. We previously reported a tumour type-specific and microenvironment-related growth-promoting role for the CXCR4 receptor. Such growth-promoting effects were highly significant only when NB cells were orthotopically injected into the adrenal gland of nude mice. This finding highly suggested a pivotal cross-talk between the CXCR4-expressing aggressive tumour cells and the associated microenvironment. The recent description of CXCR7 as a second CXCR4 receptor, add the the CXCR10/CXCR4/CXCR7 chemokine/receptor axis a new player, which function remains to be determined. In search for specific microenvironment-related effects, which might cooperate with CXCR4-mediated NB tumour growth, we addressed the role and participation of CXCR7. Although reported to confer atypical properties to cancer cells, the role of CXCR7 in NB development and the cross-talk with the microenvironment is still unknown. Preliminary screening of a small panel of NB tissues of different stages and histology types for CXCR7 expression revealed a selective CXCR7 staining on the more differentiated cells of the tumour. In contrast, CXCR7 was only moderately expressed on NB cell lines, but was found to increase upon exposition of cells to differentiation agents. From these preliminary observations, we propose that CXCR4 and CXCR7 may display two distinct and atypical roles in NB. Rather than a metastatic-promoting role identified in several other tumour systems, our data favour a tumour type-specific and growth-promoting influence for CXCR4, while CXCR7 may be implicated in NB maturation. These preliminary findings open new research perspectives for the role of the CXCL12/CXCR4/CXCR7 axis in the behaviour of NB, that will be further explored in vitro and in vivo.
Reptile-associated salmonellosis in children

Patrick M. Meyer Sauteur, Christa Relly, Martina Hug, Christoph Berger

Division of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology, University Children’s Hospital Zurich

Introduction: A 7-year-old girl was hospitalised for septicaemia because of reptile-associated salmonellosis (RAS). RAS is being recognised as an emerging zoonosis. Salmonella enterica is a natural commensal organism of reptiles and different serotypes can be isolated from a single animal. Young children seem most vulnerable to serious infection by Salmonella. Therefore, we reviewed RAS and potential risk factors in children.

Methods: RAS in childhood is reviewed and discussed: 167 human Salmonella infections with a proven link by culture of Salmonella species between the affected child and the exposing reptiles are published since 1965.

Results: 162 children reported with RAS are otherwise healthy, while 5 suffer from immunocompromising co-morbidity. Focused on healthy children, RAS presents in the majority with gastrointestinal disease (74%), but 25 children (16%) have invasive salmonellosis, i.e. septicaemia (13%), meningitis (9), and bone and joint infection (3). The median age is 1.7 years (mean 3.1 years): 46% are <1 year and 77% <5 years, respectively. Children with invasive disease are younger (median 0.3 years) than children with non-invasive RAS (median 2.0 years, p < 0.0001). The predominant reptile exposure is to turtles (52%), interestingly children with septicaemia or meningitis more frequently were exposed to iguanas (54% and 67%, respectively; p < 0.0001). Children with exposure to pet reptiles kept indoors (e.g. iguana, bearded dragon, snake, chameleon, gecko) are younger (median 1.3 years) than those exposed to reptiles which commonly are kept outdoors (median 4.2 years).

Conclusion: Pet reptiles are significant epidemiological risk factors for salmonellosis. RAS most often causes self-limiting gastrointestinal symptoms, but is associated more likely with invasive disease such as septicaemia and meningitis, especially in infants (particularly <3 months), young children and immunocompromised children. Reptiles other than turtles may be associated with RAS particularly in young children because these reptiles are kept indoors and provide close (in-)direct contact to the child.

Hashimoto Thyreoiditis related cerebrovascular ischemic insult in children

Roggen A.1, Bissig D.1, Strezzi S.1
1Medizinische Kinderklinik, Inselspital Bern

Background: Hashimoto encephalopathy is a rare clinical condition of unknown etiology, closely associated with Hashimoto’s thyroiditis and elevated titers of antithyroid antibodies. The disease presents with a wide spectrum of neuropsychological symptoms, also stroke like episodes caused by cerebroarterial vasculitis. The disease usually presents at a younger age than those exposed to reptiles which commonly are kept outdoors (median 4.2 years).

Methods: A case report: We report a case of a 12-year-old girl with sudden onset of headache and left sided sensomotoric hemiparesis. The cranial MRI showed a right sided cerebral infarction of the Thalamus and Capsula interna. The thymoglobulin and the neuropsychological ultrasound demonstrated an occlusion of left A. cerebri posterior and a stenosis of A. cerebri media and A. carotis interna. Thyroid function tests showed a very high response to corticosteroids.

Conclusion: Hashimoto thyroiditis can lead to cerebral vasculitis because of higher exposure to corticosteroids. The disease usually presents with a wide spectrum of neuropsychological symptoms, also stroke like episodes caused by cerebroarterial vasculitis.

Evaluation of anatomic plates for medical education in adolescents

Largidle S.1, Callisch M.1
Hôpital de l’Enfant et de l’Adolescent, Genève

Introduction: Patient education is an integral part of medical care. It is also crucial for adherence to treatment, especially in chronically ill adolescents patients. Improving patients’ knowledge regarding their condition has been demonstrated in several studies to contribute to their adherence to care. We therefore need to adapt our explanations to this particular age group by developing didactic tools.

Discussion: We developed fifteen specific anatomic plates simplifying the human body and its organs. Each plate is designated to a specific disease (e.g. diabetes, cystic fibrosis, kidney disease, asthma, obesity). Doctors can directly draw or write their explanations on these plates so that the patient (or his parent) can take this document home, in order to, revise and share the information given to them. Otherwise, the document could be added to the patient’s file. The figures could also be used to explain certain invasive procedures (e.g. endoscopies, lumbar puncture, gynecologic examinations).

Conclusion: Using anatomic plates, as didactic tool, could be useful to all pediatricians. The purpose of this presentation is to allow an access to these anatomic plates to pediatricians.
Conclusion: We present 3 cases of complicated sinusitis due to infection with streptococci of the milleri group (including S. anginosus, S. constellatus und S. intermedii). All of these bacteria are known to cause bane-penetrating, purulent infections, as well as endocarditis and bacteremia. It should think of intestinal complications in a case of clinical sinuitis and concomitant neurological signs. Early operative intervention in combination with intravenous antibiotics is the key stone to successful treatment.

Not your usual newborn rash – perinatal parainfluenza virus infection in a term neonate

Wörner A1, Cripe Mamie C1, Duppenthaler A2, McDougall J1
Department of Pediatrics, 1Division of Neonatology, 2Pediatric Infectiology, University Children’s Hospital of Bern

Introduction: Generalized exanthema in the newborn period is a common phenomenon. Most of the cases of maculopapular rash are due to exanthema neonatorum, a benign rash of the newborn. Differential diagnosis, often with specific additional clinical symptoms, includes varicella, rubella, HIV, syphilis, and a variety of other, often postnatally acquired, viral infections. Here, we present a case of perinatal parainfluenza virus infection in a term neonate.

Case Report: A boy was born at 39 1/2 weeks gestational age with a birth weight of 3585g. He was born vaginally to a healthy G3P3 mother without further typing. Blood cultures remained negative. The boy recovered.

Conclusion: This is the first described case of a perinatal parainfluenza virus infection in a term neonate, highlighting the importance of considering the recent family history of the days before delivery.

Safety of adjuvanted pandemic influenza vaccines: background rate of narcolepsy in Europe

J. Dielemann1, A. Hviid, T. Klip, J. Storsaeter, H. Heijliffe, C. de Vries1, C. Fransen2, C. Santucci2, K. Sturkenboom1, J. Bonhoeffer1,2
For the Narcolepsy Study Group of the VAESCO Consortium

Introduction: Several European countries united in the VAESCO consortium used population and health care databases to calculate background incidence rates (IRs). Countries used standardized Jerboa® software locally on common input data to produce uniform aggregated data, which could be transferred centrally for calculation of incidence rates (IR) and pooling.

Results: 193 million person years (PY) including 18 million PY in 2009 and 2010 from Finland, IPCI (NL) and GPORD (UK) were captured. Overall crude and non-validated narcolepsy rates varied between 1.00 and 2.04 per 100 000 PY per country. Age-specific incidence rates differed between countries. The pooled age standardized rate was 1.30 (95%CI: 1.10–1.52) per 100 000 PY. Overall rates remained within confidence limits of a 10-year secular trend after start of the vaccination campaign. In 2009 narcolepsy rates increased in 5–19 year olds in Finland and 20–59 year olds in IPCI while rates decreased in GPORD. Rates started increasing before the vaccination campaign.

Conclusion: Background rates show different age distributions between countries. The observed increase of narcolepsy rates in Finland and the Netherlands was significant but started prior to the immunization campaign and involved different age groups. In the Netherlands the affected age group did not correspond with the group targeted for vaccination, in Finland it did. A European case control study is underway.

Are pathogen inactivated platelet concentrates less effective than standard platelets in children receiving chemotherapy?

Eveline Grunder1, Sabine Groiss2,1, Oliver Speer, Marius Schmidt, Monica Gerhardt1, Urs Schranz1, Markus Schmugge2,4
1Dept. Oncology; 2Dept. Haematology; 3Dept. Infectiology, University Children’s Hospital Zürich; 4Dept. Haematology, University Hospital Zürich

Introduction: Children treated with chemotherapy because of malignancies regularly require platelet (PLT) transfusions. The Swiss blood donation centers started to produce pathogen inactivated (PI) PLT concentrates in January 2011 in order to further reduce the risk of transfusion transmitted infections. This procedure (Intercept, Baxter) causes crosslinking of DNA and RNA molecules and by this inhibits replication of infectious pathogens. As there are recent data suggesting a worse effectiveness of PI PLT transfusions in adults (Kerkhoff, BJH 2010), we compared in vitro and in vivo efficacy of standard apheresis collected to PI PLT concentrates in children.

Methods: We retrospectively analyzed data of platelet concentrates used in children receiving chemotherapy at the University Children’s Hospital Zürich at two time periods; July to December 2010, before PI (group A) and after introduction of PI, starting in January 2011 (group B).

Transfusion efficacy was estimated using the corrected count increment (CCI) at 1 hr and 2 to 24 hrs after transfusion (Charles, JCO 2001). In vitro platelet function tests (aggregometry and flow-cytometry of platelet markers in stimulated and unstimulated platelets) were performed in both types of PLT concentrates.

Results: In group A 15 patients received 57 transfusions, whereas in group B 13 patients received 42 transfusions. Pathogen inactivated PLT concentrates had similar clinical characteristics. At 1 hr after transfusion CCI was higher in group A (median 14726; range 3313 to 34830; n = 10) than in group B (4939; 0 to 16430; n = 26). In group B no satisfactory response, defined as CCI ≤5000, could be found for 14 transfusions. Equally at 2 to 24 hrs CCI was higher in group A (11360; 4200 to 23540; n = 19) compared to group B (5870; 0 to 20323; n = 34).

Platelet aggregometry demonstrated absent response to collagen and ADP in PI PLT concentrates (data will be updated).

Conclusion: In this group of children receiving chemotherapy, transfusion of pathogen inactivated platelet concentrates led to an inferior rise in platelet count at 1 hr and up to 24 hrs after transfusion. Next to an unsatisfactory transfusion response, our in vitro data indicates inferior platelet function of pathogen inactivated platelets.

Cardiogenic shock secondary to coarctation of the aorta responding to prostaglandin infusion in a one-month-old infant

Kraemer K., Karam O., Ohanesian G., Castiglioni A., Agguin Y., Beghetti M., Tissot C.
The Children’s University Hospital of Geneva

Introduction: Prenatal diagnosis of coarctation of the aorta is a challenge especially when not associated with hypoplastic aortic arch. Histological exam shows extension of ductal tissue with contractile properties in the aortic wall. The ductal tissue had similar clinical characteristics. At the time of ductal closure and for the variable clinical manifestation among patients from the neonatal period to late childhood.

Case Report: We report the case of a one month old infant born at term with good neonatal adaptation. The emergency team was called at the parents’ home for severe respiratory distress syndrome (RDS) and hypotonia. Upon arrival, the child was very cachectic, severely cyanotic with bradypnea, bradycardia and no palpable pulses necessitating intubation and volume infusion though a intraosseous line. Upon arrival in the emergency department, the infant deteriorated with cardiac arrest and shock and mild transient thrombopenia (minimum 128 G/l). Upon admission he was noted to have a diffuse and changing disseminated intravascular coagulation with a platelet count of 1635 G/l and fibrinogen of 1 G/l. The child was intubated and volume infused while awaiting cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. At one month of age with no improvement the patient was transferred to a PICC center for further care and was treated with prostaglandin infusion led to an inferior rise in platelet count at 1 hr and up to 24 hrs after transfusion. Next to an unsatisfactory transfusion response, our in vitro data indicates inferior platelet function of pathogen inactivated platelets.
bedside echocardiography showed progressive improvement of ventricular contraction and widening of the coarctation site together with reopening of the ductus arteriosus and was concordant with clinical improvement. The PGE infusion was continued and the infant underwent cardiac catheterization, which allowed for widening of the coarctation site and reopening of the ductus arteriosus. Even though it is sometimes not possible to achieve ductal reopening, PGE may act on the aortic posterior wall, allow for partial relief of the left ventricular obstruction and some clinical improvement.

Successful lung transplantation after cardiopulmonary resuscitation with extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in a child with idiopathic severe pulmonary arterial hypertension

Tissot C.1, Habre W.2, Jaecklin T.2, Aggoun Y.1, Gardinier H.1, Decroux M.-H.1, Pellegrini M.3, Barazzona C.3, Rimensberger P.3, Beggé M.²,‡
¹The Children’s University Hospital of Geneva; ²The University Hospital of Zurich, Switzerland
Introduction: Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) using extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) is widely used following severe hemodynamic surgery, but is reported in patient with severe pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) suffering cardiac arrest.
Case Report: A 9 years old boy was diagnosed with idiopathic PAH who failed to respond to sildenafil and bosentan therapy. Cardiac catheterization revealed suprasystemic non-reactive PAH (RAP: 25 mm Hg) and left (PCWP 20 mm Hg) heart filling pressures. A central venous catheter was inserted under general anesthesia for intravenous prostacyclin therapy. Following extubation, the patient presented signs of increased right heart filling pressure compatible with RCM. The cardiac catheterization confirmed the elevation of the filling pressure (right atrial pressure 21 mm Hg, pulmonary capillary wedge pressure 21 mm Hg, left ventricular end-diastolic pressure 20 mm Hg) and mild pulmonary hypertension (pulmonary artery pressure 35/15/23 mm Hg) secondary to left ventricular diastolic dysfunction. The cardiac MRI showed no pericardial thickening, no myocardial fibrosis with late enhancement and abnormal diastolic function, compatible with RCM. An extensive work-up showed increased Pro-BNP and ASAT, and polycythemia (Htc 58%). A bone marrow asporation was normal. An arterial biopsy revealed mesangio proliferative glomerulonephritis with some immunoglobulin and amyloidosis deposits. Mutation analysis by a sequencing array harboring the complete coding sequence of 12 HCM genes revealed a novel missense mutation (p.Arg192Cys) in the TAP1 gene. The patient was list for heart transplantation but unfortunately died from cardiac arrest following anesthesia for a permanent central line placement after one year on the waiting list.
Conclusion: We present the first pediatric case of RCM secondary to a mutation in the TAP1 gene. Large scale genetic sequencing platforms represent a rapid and efficient method for molecular analysis of heterogeneous cardiac disorders in pediatric clinical practice.

Critical aortic stenosis progressing to hypoplastic left heart syndrome despite technically successful fetal aortic valvuloplasty

Raverdin A.1, Gardiner H.1, Aggoun Y.², Irion O.², Finci V.², Blouin J.-L.², Fokshtien S.²
¹The Children’s University Hospital of Geneva; ²The Children’s University Hospital of Geneva, Switzerland
Introduction: Fetal aortic stenosis (AS) with a normal sized left ventricle (LV) and aortic valve at mid-gestation often progresses to hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS). Fetal aortic valvuloplasty can improve LV size and function and may allow for biventricular physiology.
Case Report: In a 36 weeks gestation maternal was diagnosed with critical AS. The LV was of normal size and apex-forming with endocardial fibroelastosis (EFE) and severely depressed systolic function. There was decreased forward flow through the mitral valve and the shunt across the foramen ovale (FO) was increased. The fetus was referred at 23 2/3 weeks to London and underwent successful fetal balloon aortic valvuloplasty. The fetal echocardiography showed an improved interval of R-L shunt across the FO, forward flow through the mitral valve and increased flow across the aortic valve with a peak velocity of 1.4 m/s. Further echocardiograms revealed evolution towards HLHS with almost exclusive L-R shunt across the FO, a very small jet of forward flow across the aortic valve (Z-score –2.4) and a hypoplastic mitral annulus (Z-score –6.3) with very limited forward flow. The LV was becoming small (Z-score –2.4) with increased right heart filling pressure, in part due to EFE. This combination of findings made it very likely that an univentricular circulation would be the surgical option at birth and fetal counseling was made in that direction. New parents decided to carry on the pregnancy until birth and opted for comfort care of the newborn. Post-natal echocardiography confirmed the diagnosis of HLHS and the baby deceased 48 hours after birth from cyanosis and cardiogenic shock.
Conclusion: Fetal AS leads to increased LV pressure and EFE responsible for diastolic dysfunction and further compromise of LV growth. Proper selection of patients suitable for fetal aortic valvuloplasty is essential in order to prevent progression to HLHS.

Cardiac Troponin I Mutation responsible for Idiopathic Restrictive Cardiomyopathy in a 4-year-old Child

Tissot C.1, Ansari M.1, Beggé M.², Aggoun Y.², Finci V.², Blouin J.-L.², Fokshtien S.²
¹The Children’s University Hospital of Geneva; ²The University Hospital of Geneva, Switzerland
Introduction: Restrictive cardiomyopathy (RCM) is a heart-muscle disease resulting in diastolic heart failure. In the past decade, genetic studies have demonstrated that RCM is part of the spectrum of sarcomeric disease and frequently coexists with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) and familial hypercholesterolemia.
Case Report: We report the case of a 4-year-old boy originating from Congo, known for multiple episodes of thyrotoxic fever and malnutrition, who was referred by his pediatrician for hepatomegaly, dyspnea and edematus swelling. The chest X-Ray was remarkable for cardiomegaly. The echocardiography showed enlarged both atria, normal size of the ventricles with normal biventricular systolic function but signs of abnormal diastolic function with moderate tricuspid regurgitation and signs of increased right heart filling pressure compatible with RCM. The cardiac catheterization confirmed the elevation of the filling pressure (right atrial pressure 2 mm Hg, pulmonary capillary wedge pressure 21 mm Hg, left ventricular end-diastolic pressure 20 mm Hg) and mild pulmonary hypertension (pulmonary artery pressure 35/15/23 mm Hg) secondary to left ventricular diastolic dysfunction. The cardiac MRI showed no pericardial thickening, no myocardial fibrosis with late enhancement and abnormal diastolic function, compatible with RCM.
An extensive work-up showed increased Pro-BNP and ASAT, and polycythemia (Htc 58%). A bone marrow asporation was normal. An arterial biopsy revealed mesangio proliferative glomerulonephritis with some immunoglobulin and amyloidosis deposits. Mutation analysis by a sequencing array harboring the complete coding sequence of 12 HCM genes revealed a novel missense mutation (p.Arg192Cys) in the cardiac troponin I gene (TNNT3) very likely responsible for the cardiac phenotype in our patient. After multiple episodes of heart failure, the child was listed for cardiac transplantation but unfortunately died from cardiac arrest following anesthesia for a permanent central line placement after one year on the waiting list.
Conclusion: We present the first pediatric case of RCM secondary to a mutation in the troponin I (TNNT3) gene. Large scale genetic sequencing platforms represent a rapid and efficient method for molecular analysis of heterogeneous cardiac disorders in pediatric clinical practice.

Tachycardia in a newborn – cardiac failure as a consequence of an arteriovenous malformation

Spöri C.1, Hartmann K.1, Döll C.², Scheer I.², Keller E.², Mann C.²
¹Dept. für Kinder- und Jugendmedizin, Kantonsspital Graubünden; ²Chir. Universitätinkinderklinik Zürich
Introduction: Tachycardia in a newborn can have many causes, some common ones like sepsis or supraventricular tachycardia, but also some rare ones like in our case.
Case Report: A ten days newborn with right two sided segmental facial hemangiomas presented with tachycardia and tachycardia. Echocardiography showed dilated ventricles, but no structural malformations. The tachycardia was diagnosed with critical AS. The LV was of normal size and apex-forming with endocardial fibroelastosis (EFE) and severely depressed systolic function. There was decreased forward flow through the mitral valve and the shunt across the foramen ovale (FO) was increased. The fetus was referred at 23 2/3 weeks to London and underwent successful fetal balloon aortic valvuloplasty. The fetal echocardiography showed an improved interval of R-L shunt across the FO, forward flow through the mitral valve and increased flow across the aortic valve with a peak velocity of 1.4 m/s. Further echocardiograms revealed evolution towards HLHS with almost exclusive L-R shunt across the FO, a very small jet of forward flow across the aortic valve (Z-score –2.4) and a hypoplastic mitral annulus (Z-score –6.3) with very limited forward flow. The LV was becoming small (Z-score –2.4) with increased right heart filling pressure, in part due to EFE. This combination of findings made it very likely that an univentricular circulation would be the surgical option at birth and fetal counseling was made in that direction. New parents decided to carry on the pregnancy until birth and opted for comfort care of the newborn. Post-natal echocardiography confirmed the diagnosis of HLHS and the baby deceased 48 hours after birth from cyanosis and cardiogenic shock.
Conclusion: Fetal AS leads to increased LV pressure and EFE responsible for diastolic dysfunction and further compromise of LV growth. Proper selection of patients suitable for fetal aortic valvuloplasty is essential in order to prevent progression to HLHS.
A surprisingy dramatic manifestation of a common chronic disease
Perret E.1, Ragazzi M.1, Ritz N.1, Riedel T.1, Gebauer M.2, Casaulta C.1
1University Children’s Hospital Berne; 2Children’s Hospital Biel-Basel

Background: Cystic fibrosis (CF) is an autosomal recessive multisystem disorder caused by mutations in the CFTR-gene. There is considerable variability in both presentation and clinical course of the disease. Classical presenting symptoms include failure to thrive and recurrent respiratory symptoms.

Case report: An 11-year-old boy was admitted to a regional hospital for an acute respiratory infection with severe bronchial obstruction, hypoxemia and reduced general condition. Atypical pneumonia was suspected and treatment with oxygen, clarithromycin, salbutamol and ipratropium bromide was initiated. On day four, the child developed hyperglycemia and was treated with insulin. Ancillary studies revealed moderate inflammation, five-fold elevated liver enzymes and bilateral reticuloendothelial opacities. A putride and bloody trachea-bronchial aspirate revealed moderate growth of Staphylococcus aureus and profuse growth of two strains of Pseudomonas aeruginosa (one with mucoid colony morphology).

Further laboratory investigations including antibodies for vasculitis and goossepspasm syndrome were negative. High signal intensity in areas of HFO and four days of conventional ventilation, the patient was successfully extubated. Low weight and clubbing were noted. Progressive hyperglycemia developed after extubation and was treated with insulin. Repeated history taking revealed one single episode of obstructive bronchitis at six months of age and loose, large volume stools, the family history was unremarkable. An abnormal sweat test confirmed the clinical suspicion of cystic fibrosis.

Conclusion: This child presented in a very unusual way with manifestation of cystic fibrosis in an advanced stage with acute near fatal respiratory failure, colonization with Staphylococcus aureus and Pseudomonas aeruginosa and endocrine pancreas insufficiency. CF newborn screening program started in January 2011 may prevent delayed diagnosis of CF in future.
Lactic Acidosis in Children with Severe Acute Asthma Exacerbation

Lynda Vandertuin, Constance Barazzzone-Arigroff, Peter C. Rimensberger, Alexandra Reverdin
Department of the Adolescent. HUG

Introduction: Lactic acidosis can occur during acute asthma attacks primarily related to excessive respiratory muscle work. It has been rarely described in children. We report 2 cases in children, with acute asthma exacerbation and hyperlactatemia.

Case Report: Two children, aged 15 and 5 years, were admitted to the Emergency Department of the Children’s Hospital, with acute asthma exacerbation. Both children had a past history of asthma. Initial treatment included inhaled β2 agonist therapy and oral corticosteroids. Partial clinical improvement was noted with a reduction of wheezing. Both children remained markedly dyspnoeic and tachypneic, leading to an intensification of β2 agonist therapy. Venous blood gas analysis showed increased lactates (10.7 and 7.3 mmol/l respectively) with normal pH, pCO2, and O2 saturation. During the course of treatment, 1 child developed low blood pressure (60/30 mm Hg), malaise and general discomfort. He improved after receiving intravenous volume replacement. Both children showed significant clinical improvement with normalisation of lactate levels in parallel to withdrawal of β2 agonist therapy after several hours of monitoring.

Conclusion: These cases illustrate the development of hyperlactatemia during β2-agonist therapy in acute exacerbation of asthma. The elevated lactate values could not be solely attributed to tissue hypoxia as observed by vigorous muscle contraction of the respiratory muscles. Several explanations have been proposed and the cause is likely multifactorial. Lactate production due to β2 agonist therapy is a side effect rarely described and can play an important role in patient management when aggressive treatment is initiated. This side effect is often unrecognized and therefore underestimated.

Pelvic Osteomyelitis Mimicking Acute Abdomen: a case report

Dang P.M., Brighi L., Mapelli E.
Hôpital de Nyon, GHOL

Introduction: Pelvic osteomyelitis is a rare but serious disease that can lead to local complications if left untreated. The diagnosis and management are often delayed because of the nonspecific clinical presentation.

Case: We present the case of a fourteen-year-old boy who presented to our Emergency Department with a 5 days history of high fever and continuous left abdominal pain exacerbated by walking and weight bearing. At arrival, physical examination reveals an elective pain in the left iliac quadrant without signs of peritonism, associated with an elecive tender palpation of the left iliac fossa. Venous blood gas analysis showed increased lactates (10.7 and 7.3 mmol/l respectively) with normal pH, pCO2, and O2 saturation. During the course of treatment, 1 child developed low blood pressure (60/30 mm Hg), malaise and general discomfort. He improved after receiving intravenous volume replacement. Both children showed significant clinical improvement with normalisation of lactate levels in parallel to withdrawal of β2 agonist therapy after several hours of monitoring.

Conclusion: These cases illustrate the development of hyperlactatemia during β2-agonist therapy in acute exacerbation of asthma. The elevated lactate values could not be solely attributed to tissue hypoxia as observed by vigorous muscle contraction of the respiratory muscles. Several explanations have been proposed and the cause is likely multifactorial. Lactate production due to β2 agonist therapy is a side effect rarely described and can play an important role in patient management when aggressive treatment is initiated. This side effect is often unrecognized and therefore underestimated.

Outbreak investigation because of neonatal listeriosis cases in a Swiss maternity

C. Kahler², F. Limacher², W. Girardi₂, J. Bille⁴, M. Schlegel⁴
1Cantonal Hospital, Division of Infectious diseases, St. Gallen, CH;
2Children Hospital St. Gallen, CH;
3Hospital Universitaire Vaudois (CHUV), Lausanne, CH;
4Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois (CHUV), Lausanne, CH

Objectives: Since 2008, the Federal Office of Public Health in Switzerland has reported no single case of neonatal listeriosis. For this reason, outbreak investigation was immediately started after occurrence of severe invasive infection with detection of L. monocytogenes in two term borne neonates within one week in a Swiss maternity. The aim was to identify potential sources of this foodborne pathogen and consecutively being able to prevent further illness.

Methods: Confronted by a foodborne disease outbreak, guidelines for investigation and control as recommended were applied.

Results: L. monocytogenes serotype 4 was cultured in the cerebrospinal fluid of case 1 as well as 4 days later in the blood of case 2. Both neonates had pleocytosis and responded to antibiotic treatment with high dose amoxicillin. Further investigation of listeria isolates by pulsed field gel electrophoresis typing in the national listeria reference centre identified both as type 7, a type not detected in the 20 other human isolates that has been tested before. The mother of case 1 showed symptoms of a viral illness 2 weeks before giving birth. Listeria infection was suspected because of a 4-fold rise in specific antibody titters. The mother of case 2 stayed seronegative even 4 weeks post partum. Neither direct or indirect contacts, nor common used objects or food exposure could be identified except breast milk of both mothers that has been stored during one night together in one fridge. After implementation of a case report and spatial and temporal clusters and can play an important role in patient management when aggressive treatment is initiated. This side effect is often unrecognized and therefore underestimated.

Conclusion: Although transmission by contaminated hands of healthcare workers is considered the most frequent reason for nosocomial infection, this route appears plausible in this outbreak. In fact, breast milk was identified as the most likely source of nosocomial infection. As a consequence, system changes and structural changes concerning breast milk administration were implemented. As breast milk administration errors are breast milk should be considered in foodborne outbreak investigations and strict prevention guidelines should be implemented and controlled in all maternity.

Invasive Fusobacterium infection after mononucleosis

Giuliani S., Beltrami D., Podda M.F., Melik N., Ruetti L.
Pediatria – Ospedale Regionale di Locarno

A 16 years old boy with initially uncomplicated mononucleosis developed after 10 days a purpuris and a large confluent abscess of the cervical lymph nodes, clearly delineated in the CT of the neck. We performed a drainage of the abscess and started an antibiotic therapy with ceftriaxone i.v. with initially fairly poor response. In the culture of the drainage fluid we could ascertain the presence of Fusobacterium necrophorum, and from the abscess pus Metronidazol i.v. confirms signs of osteomyelitis of the ilio-pubic branch with surrounding abscesses. After an unsuccessful trial of conservative treatment, a surgical drainage is necessary. The clinical and biological course is then favourable with a 6-weeks antibiotic treatment. After 2 months of follow-up, the evolution is actually uncomplicated.

Discussion: This case emphasizes the difficulty of making early diagnosis of pelvic osteomyelitis. In fact, peripelic infections are rare but serious affections, which are often not considered in differential diagnoses for patients presenting with fever, abdominal pain, inability to bear weight and elevated inflammatory parameters. One must remember to consider it in front of the clinical presentation of our patient, and to complete the screening with an MRI.

Conclusion: In case of typical febrile abdominal pain, bone infection should always be considered. If the clinical presentation is inconsistent with laboratory results and first-line radiological techniques, further studies are necessary. As ultrasound and CT-scan are known to be limited techniques for early diagnosis of bone disease, MRI should be considered early in the course of the disease, because of its great accuracy in evaluating bone infection and deep tissue involvement.

Endobronchial inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor as a rare cause of left lung atelectasis

Alexandra Reverdin¹, Paola M. Socca³, Anne Mornand¹
¹Fabienne Gumy-Pauze², Jean-Claude Pache³,
²Anne-Laure Rougeman², Constance Barazzzone Arigroff³
³The Geneva University Hospital, Pediatric Pulmonary Unit; Department of Internal Medicine & of Surgery, Pediatric Oncology and Hematology Unit, Division of Pathology

Introduction: Atelectasis is a key component of many acute lung diseases. In pediatric clinical settings, it is mostly related to lung infection and mucus plugging. We report the case of a child presenting with chronic onset of dyspnea, wheezing and complete left lung atelectasis resulting from left mainstem bronchial tumoral obstruction.

Case Report: An 11½ years old child presented with gradual onset of dyspnea and cough was treated for asthma without clinical improvement. One month after the onset of respiratory symptoms, he developed fever and the cough became persistent. Chest-XRay showed left lower lobe consolidation. The diagnosis of Pneumonia was established and antibiotic therapy was prescribed. Two months later, he was referred to our Pulmonary Unit because of unsatisfying clinical improvement. Further investigation of listeria isolates by pulsed field gel electrophoresis typing in the national listeria reference centre identified both as type 7, a type not detected in the 20 other human isolates that has been tested before. The mother of case 1 showed symptoms of a viral illness 2 weeks before giving birth. Listeria infection was suspected because of a 4-fold rise in specific antibody titters. The mother of case 2 stayed seronegative even 4 weeks post partum. Neither direct or indirect contacts, nor common used objects or food exposure could be identified except breast milk of both mothers that has been stored during one night together in one fridge. After implementation of a case report and spatial and temporal clusters and can play an important role in patient management when aggressive treatment is initiated. This side effect is often unrecognized and therefore underestimated.

Conclusion: Although transmission by contaminated hands of healthcare workers is considered the most frequent reason for nosocomial infection, this route appears plausible in this outbreak. In fact, breast milk was identified as the most likely source of nosocomial infection. As a consequence, system changes and structural changes concerning breast milk administration were implemented. As breast milk administration errors are breast milk should be considered in foodborne outbreak investigations and strict prevention guidelines should be implemented and controlled in all maternity.

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course with complete left lung radiological consolidation. White blood cell count and blood chemistry were unremarkable, CRP was <10 mg/dl and tuberculosis skin test was negative. Chest ultrasound showed pulmonary consolidation without significant pleural effusion. Thoracic CT confirmed complete left lung atelectasis and raised a high suspicion of left mainstem endobronchial mass, which was later confirmed by chest MRI (size: 2.1 x 1.8 x 3.4 cm). On PET CT this mass showed increased metabolism (SUV max 21.8). No other hypermetabolic lesions were found on PET-CT and on whole body MRI. Lung volumes were markedly decreased with a restrictive syndrome (total lung capacity 55% of predicted). Bronchoscopy visualized the endobronchial tumor which was subtotally obstructing the distal end of the left mainstem bronchus. The polypoid shape of the tumor allowed total endoscopic resection with a diathermic snare combined to argon plasma coagulation. Histopathological analysis revealed a mesenchymal tumor more commonly called IMT (Inflammatory Myofibroblastic Tumor) which has good prognosis if totally removed. Cytogenetic analysis confirmed this diagnosis with positive characteristic rearrangement at 2p23.9 of the gene coding for the anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK)-receptor tyrosine kinase (found in 50% of IMT cases). Radiological studies after resection showed complete resolution of the atelectasis. Repeated bronchoscopies at 1 and 3 months were normal. Gradual recuperation with TLC at 75% of predicted was obtained at 3 months.

Conclusion: When confronted with persistent atelectasis with or without infection signs, anatomical obstruction must be considered. This case illustrates the importance of radiological studies, bronchoscopy and lung function testing in the evaluation and treatment of the endobronchial masses which is children. Successful endoscopic removal by interventional bronchoscopy could be performed in this child.

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Pulmonary interstitial glycosinosis in an infant presenting with hypotonia, heart failure, pulmonary hypertension and interstitial lung disease

Alexandra Reverdin¹, Anne Mornand², Maurice Beghetti³, Caroline Guerra³, Armand Bottani³, Jean-Claude Pache³, Constance Barazzzone-Arigofo¹, Cécile Tissot¹
Geneva University Hospitals: Pediatric Pulmonary Unit; Pediatric Cardiology Unit; Service of Genetic Medicine; Clinic of the Grangettes Geneva

Introduction: Intestinal lung disease of infancy is a rare entity usually presenting in the neonatal period with tachypnea, hypoxemia and respiratory insufficiency. We report the unusual case of an infant born without significant initial pulmonary compromise, but who showed in the first months of life a persisting unexplained hypotonia.

Case Report: The patient is a caucasian male born at term by C-section because of fetal bradycardia, with Apgar 3/8/9. Given a respiratory distress syndrome, he necessitated 10° bag mask ventilation followed by CPAP. Birth weight was 3400 g (P25-50), length 51 cm (P75-90). Diagnosis of hypoglycemia from hospital was day 5. At the 1 and 3 months visits, generalized global hypotonia was noted in an otherwise alert baby. Work-up (ENMG, brain MRI, genetic testing for Pulmonary Fibrolysis syndrome and spinal muscular atrophy) was non contributory. Further investigation revealed the age of 6 months revealed significant cardiomegaly and increased vascular markings on chest X-ray. Echocardiography showed a large secundum atrial septal defect (ASD) and a right heart chamber, biventricular systolic dysfunction and severe intra-ventricular pulmonary hypertension (SPAP estimated at 70 mm Hg). Cardiac catheterization confirmed a left to right shunt across the ASD. At systemic output (Qp/Qs) ratio was 2.1, while the pulmonary to systemic resistance (Rp/Rs) ratio was 0.24. PAP was 53/23/37 mm Hg, decreasing to 43/19/31 mm Hg after pulmonary vasodilatation. Chest CT showed bilateral pulmonary infiltrates and ground glass opacities. Bronchoscopy revealed a pulsatile posterior extrinsic left mainstem bronchus compression. Bronchoalveolar lavage was normal and red oil stain for detecting silica was negative. Nocturnal oxymetry was abnormal with numerous and significant episodes of desaturations. Pulmonary biopsy showed increased thickness of alveolar septa with an increased number of cells containing glycogen in the interstitium, compatible with pulmonary interstitial glycosinosis (PIG). Patient underwent surgical closure of ASD with a fenestrated patch, to allow for post-operative right heart decompression. One month later, echocardiography showed right heart chamber dilatation and cessation of the ASD. PAP with a stable residual ischemia was 52 S (P 123

Intraperitoneal vincristine infusion in a 7-year-old girl with an acute lymphoblastic leukemia: a case-report and review of the literature

Mattielo V., L Huiller A.G., Cimasoni L., Gumin-Paese F., Darani A., Ansari M., Qabazard A.
Department of Pediatrics. University Hospital of Geneva (HUG).

Background: Despite the well-known side effects of subcutaneous diffusion of chemotherapeutic agents, there is limited data in literature concerning the management of accidental intraperitoneal infusion of antineoplastic drugs. While vincristine was reported as an effective sclerosing agent for malignant pleural effusion in adults, we report the case of an intraperitoneal infusion of vincristine from a misplaced central venous catheter (CVC) and its management.

Case-Report: A 7-year-old girl was diagnosed with a standard risk B precursor lymphoblastic leukemia and treated according to the Children's Oncology Group Protocol AALL0331. At D1 of the Induction Phase and after implantation of a CVC in the right internal jugular vein, the fluoroscopic control showed correct positioning of the CVC, but there was no blood reflux. Therefore a fibrinolytic treatment (urokinase 10000 UI) was performed, blood reflux was obtained and she received intravenous treatments (vincristine 1.5 mg/m², ceftazidim 2600 mg, esomeprazole 10 mg, ondansetron 8 mg, kainon 4.5 mg, dexamethasone 0.6 mg and D5NaC3 0.45% with 20 mEq/l NaCO3 around 1L). Four hours after injection, the patient presented basilarthoracic pain with acute respiratory distress (tachypnea, desaturation) and right lung ventilation showed a right pleural effusion, and CVC angiography showed diffusion of contrast liquid directly in the pleural space, confirming our suspicion of CVC malposition in the pleural cavity. Treatment included pleural drainage with aspiration of 1L of liquid and placing a 0.9% saline solution. The CVC was removed. The analysis of pleural liquid showed small concentrations of ondansetron and vincristine. We didn't perform any further surgical treatment neither local application of hyaluronic acid, as proposed in literature for subcutaneous vincristine extravasations. Clinical evolution was excellent, the thoracic drain was removed after 3 days and a new CVC was inserted in the left internal jugular vein. Except a severe constipation during the week following this event there were no sequelae of this accidental intrathoracic vincristine infusion after one year of follow-up.

Conclusion: We report the occurrence of accidental intraperitoneal vincristine direct infusion. Treatment with pleural drainage and washing was effective in this case, with an excellent outcome. We hope that our experience will be helpful for potential future accidents.

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Fibrous Tumors in Infancy and Childhood: From Spontaneous Cure to Mutilating Disease

Grunder Eveline, Bergsträsser Eva, Bode Peter Karl, Kellenberger Christian, Niggli Felix
Department of Oncology and Radiology, University Children's Hospital, Zürich. Department of Pathology, University Hospital, Zürich

Introduction: Fibrous tumors (FT) is a rare and heterogeneous entity in pediatric oncology. Clinical course ranges from spontaneous cure to aggressive and mutilating disease. Surgery is generally considered as the primary treatment modality, however is often not feasible. Second-line treatment is therefore chemotherapy (CT) and radiotherapy (RT).

Results: We report on a case series of 13 pts. with FT, including 7 aggressive fibromatoses (AF), 2 infantile myofibromatosis (IM), 2 inflammatory myofibroblastic tumors, 1 inflammatory fibrosarcoma and 1 low-grade fibroblastoma sarcoma.

For AF (n = 7) medium age at diagnosis was 3yrs. (range 0.7 to 12 yrs.). The most common location was face/neck (5 pts.), followed by spine/trunk (2 pts.). Six out of 7 pts. received CT (mean duration 15 mths.). Three pts. had surgery. 2 of them at 0.66-0.73 and 1 after 11 mths. of CT. One pt. had RT after initial surgery. All pts. are in complete remission (n = 5) or have stable disease (n = 2) with a median follow-up of 36 mths. The two patients with IM presented with hypotonia, presentation in the first months of life a persisting unexplained hypotonia. Work-up (ENMG, brain MRI, genetic testing for Pulmonary Fibrolysis syndrome and spinal muscular atrophy) was non contributory. Further investigation revealed the age of 6 months revealed significant cardiomegaly and increased vascular markings on chest X-ray. Echocardiography showed a large secundum atrial septal defect (ASD) and a right heart chamber, biventricular systolic dysfunction and severe intra-ventricular pulmonary hypertension (SPAP estimated at 70 mm Hg). Cardiac catheterization confirmed a left to right shunt across the ASD. For AF (n = 7) medium age at diagnosis was 3yrs. (range 0.7 to 12 yrs.).

For IM (n = 2) medium age at diagnosis was 5 mths. (range 5 to 6 mths.). One patient with inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor the tumor was located in the bladder and in the trachea, respectively. Treatment with steroids and antibiotics in the former, and repeated endoscopic tumor resections in the latter, led to stable residual disease in both cases. One patient with inflammatory fibrosarcoma of the bladder received CT for 2 mths. followed by partial bladder resection. He is in complete remission. The last patient is a neonate who presented with a painless swelling of the right cheek at 1 mth. of age. Biopsy revealed an atypical myofibroblastic proliferation and the patient was followed without treatment. Because of tumor progression biopsy was repeated and a low-grade sarcoma was diagnosed. After 2 mths. of CT there is a slight tumor reduction.
Conclusion: There is a wide range of fibrous tumors in children and histological sub-classification might be difficult. The clinical course is often unpredictable and challenging for therapeutic decision making. Surgery plays an important role but might be often limited due to risk of mutilation. Chemotherapy, often long lasting, can be beneficial in many cases and can even lead to complete remission. Complete resection or stable disease in fibrous tumors can be achieved in the majority of patients.

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Atypical presentation of Purpura Henloch Schönleinen with severe intestinal involvement
Podda M.F., Nobile L., Buetti L.
Pediatria – Ospedale Regionale di Locarno
A 6 years old boy presented with worsening colicky abdominal pain and vomiting since 12 hours. No diarrhea, no blood in the stool, no fever. On admission the physical examination revealed a diffuse tenderness of the abdomen with an ill-defined mass on the left side and increased bowel sounds. WBC and CRP not altered. Sonographically little amount of ascites, no signs of intussusception.
In the next days gradual deterioration of the clinical condition with worsening of the abdominal pain, at serial sonographic examinations marked increase of ascites and thickening of the jejunal wall. Five days after the onset appearance of melena. A laparotomy showed a massive inflammatory swelling of a jejunal segment of about 40 cm without other pathologies. An empirical antibiotic therapy was started (cefazidim and metronidazolum) waiting at the bacteriological results of blood, ascites and stool (afterwards with negative results).
Postoperatively conservative therapy particularly correction of a massive inflammatory swelling was started. Twelve days after onset appearance of a purpuric rash who allowed to make the diagnosis: atypical presentation of Purpura Henloch Schönleinen with severe intestinal involvement. A steroid therapy was started with rapid improvement of the clinical conditions. In the following days appearance of a scrotal swelling and transitory arthralgia of the left elbow, typical signs of the illness as well. A renal involvement was not present.

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Doboby mass index and physical activity levels affect spirometry results in children?
Rueegg C.S.¹, Strippoli M.P.F.¹, Beardmore C.S.², Silverman M.², Kuehni C.E.¹
¹Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Bern, Finkenhübelweg 11, 3012 Bern, Switzerland; ²Division of Child Health, University of Leicester, Leicester, United Kingdom
Objectives: The literature on the influence of physical activity and Body Mass Index (BMI) on pulmonary function is inconsistent. We aimed: 1) to describe physical activity levels and BMI in a cohort of children with and without asthma; and 2) to test the independent effect of physical activity and BMI on spirometry results.
Methods: We performed spirometry (post-salbutamol FEV1, FVC, FEF50) in a nested sample of 1141 children aged 9–13 years from a population-based cohort study in Leicestershire, UK. BMI (standardized for age) reported physical activity and asthma related factors were assessed by questionnaire at the same age. Independent association of BMI and physical activity with spirometry results were tested using multivariable linear regression adjusting for sex, age, height, ethnicity, socio-economic factors, current wheeze (last 12 months) as well as wheeze and physical activity at age 1–6 years.
Results: Among all children, 374 (33%) reported little physical activity (0–1 hour outdoorplay per day), 447 (40%) played 1–2 hours and 296 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors. 644 (56%) of children had normal weight, 57 (5%)were underweight, 316 (28%)overweight and 121 (26%) more than 2 hours outdoors.
Conclusion: In this population, physical activity and BMI were not associated with current wheeze. Physical activity level did not affect spirometry results but BMI was associated. Our results suggest consider weight for standardization and interpretation of spirometry data in children.

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PFAPA syndrome is linked to dysregulated IL-1β production
Laetitia Kolly¹, Annette von Scheven-Gete², Nathalie Busso¹, Nathaliene Bagnoud³, Dirk Holzinger³, Michael Morris³, Michael Hofer³
¹Service of rheumatology, Department of CHUV, Lausanne and HUG, Genève, Switzerland; ²University hospital of Munster, Germany; ³Service of genetic medicine, HUG, Genève, Switzerland
Background: PFAPA is associated with aphthous pharyngitis, and cervical adenitis found in children with a spontaneous resolution in most cases until adolescence. There is no clear aetiology found up to now and recently a familial predominance has been shown in PFAPA suggesting a genetic cause. In fact, autoimmunological diseases elevated levels of IL-1β and the efficacy of the treatment with Anakinra, a recombinant human IL-1 receptor antagonist, suggests a role for IL-1β in its pathogenesis.
Aim: Evaluate the role of dysregulation of IL-1β secretion in the pathogenesis of PFAPA syndrome.
Methods: In 12 patients with confirmed PFAPA blood was drawn during and outside a febrile episode. Inflammatory parameters were measured. PBMCs were stimulated with LPS and cytokine levels were measured. Genomic DNA was screened by PCR and sequencing for genetic variants of MEFV, TNFRSF1A, MIP and NLRP3 genes.
Results: Monocyte and neutrophil counts, ESR, CRP and SAA levels were significantly elevated during febrile episodes. PBMC’s secreted more IL-1β upon LPS stimulation during fever flares (p <0.001: OUT 235 ± 56 pg/ml; IN 575 ± 88 pg/ml). Serum levels of IL-6, IP-10 and caspase -1 were also increased significantly during febrile episode whereas TNFα and MCP-1 did not show significant changes. 4 of 12 patients were found to have a heterogeneous variant in the NLRP3 gene (associated to CAPS) but no variant in the MEFV, TNFRSF1A and MVK genes. Patients with NLRP3 variants did not have a different clinical presentation in comparison to the other PFAPA patients.
Conclusion: In PFAPA patients, stimulated mononuclear cells show increased IL-1β secretion during fever episodes suggesting a role for IL-1β in the pathogenesis of PFAPA. Interestingly, we found in a subset of patients variants for the NLRP3 gene that may lead to dysregulated IL-1β production. These findings may open new treatment options in PFAPA.

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aEEG developmental changes during the first three days after birth in very preterm infants
Giancaro Natalucci¹,², Cornelia Hagmann³, Vera Bernet³, Hans Ulrich Bucher¹, Valentin Rousson³, Beatrice Latal³
¹Department of Neonatology, University Hospital Zurich; ²Child Development Center; ³Department of Pediatric Intensive Care and Neonatology; University Children’s Hospital, Zurich, Switzerland; ⁴Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine, University Hospital and Faculty of Medicine, Lausanne, Switzerland
Background: Maturation of amplitude-integrated electroencephalogram (aEEG) activity in the preterm infant has been shown to be influenced by both gestational and postmenstrual age. Objective: To describe the development of aEEG activity in preterm infants <28 gestational weeks during the first three days of life in relation to the presence of cerebral injuries.
Methods: 104 infants born at 25–32 gestational weeks without evidence of congenital or metabolic abnormalities had continuous two-channel aEEG during the first 72–84 hours of life. aEEG characteristics were evaluated visually applying pre-established criteria (“background pattern” after Hellström-Westas et al. 2006, “maturity score” after Burdjalov et al. 2003) and quantitatively (maximum and minimum aEEG amplitude). Cranial ultrasound was obtained at the first, third and seventh day of life and repeated on a weekly basis.
Results: A significant increase in the cortical activity was observed between day 1 and 3 after birth with all assessment methods: a) aEEG pattern significantly changed from an immature to a more mature pattern. This trend occurred more slowly in newborns with major brain lesions; b) the maximum and minimum aEEG amplitude increased significantly over time in all newborns; c) over time, the background score was well correlated with the maturity score (r² range = .16 – .27; p <.001) as well as the maturity score with the quantitative measurements (r² range = .05, p <.05 to .15, p <.001, and r² range = .25 to .43, p <.001, respectively).
Conclusions: aEEG activity matures significantly already during the first days of life. In the presence of overt cerebral lesions this process is delayed. The good correlation between the different aEEG assessment tools are of utility in the clinical practice.
Morning of informations and speaking with the families of children with sicklecelldisease (SCD): preparation, unfolding, evaluation. Lausanne’s experiment

Cécile Jerome Choudaj, Valérie Leclair Rezbach, Anne Maillard, Françoise Bohren, Margaux Comu, Maja Beck Popovic
1Pédiatrie, Unité d’hématologie oncoloqe pédiatrique, Département Médico Chirurgical Pédiatrique, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois, Lausanne, Suisse; 2Unité d’hématologie oncoloqe pédiatrique, DMCP, CHUV, Lausanne, Suisse; 3Inﬁnire référente drépanocytopathie, Unité d’hématologie oncoloqe pédiatrique, DMCP, CHUV, Lausanne, Suisse; 4Neuropsychologue, DMCP, CHUV, Lausanne, Suisse; 5Assistante sociale, DMCP, CHUV, Lausanne, Suisse; 6Assistante médicale, DMCP, CHUV, Lausanne, Suisse

Introduction: Migration and adoption confront the medical teams with the sicklecelldisease. There are different aspects in this disease: multiorganic, preventive, therapeutic, educational, school, professional, psychological and cultural. In 2010 in Lausanne 50 children are followed in the consultation.

Objectif: To propose a meeting for a better accompanngement

Method: Preparation. We send a letter to the parents (interests, waitings, availabilites). Topics chosen starting from the answers and difficulties perceived by the team. Next we send the program for informations and speaking with the families of children with SCD. The morning will be organized in 3 parts: what is the sicklecelldisease and why all these follow-up examinations at the hospital?, school and neuropsychological assessment, role of the social worker. Workshops: pain, infection, games for children.

Evaluation: 46 families invited, 20 interested, 10 went (25%). After the meeting, we have send 10 paper-interviews, 7 came back. All wish a new meeting and propose different subjects.

Conclusion: The 2nd morning will be organized with the adult consultation and we hope to develop this type of meeting with other Hospitals in Switzerland. We would that the parents participe to an ethical Conference to speak about antenatal diagnosis of SCD in November 2011. Lastly, the French’s experiment (ROFSED), London’s (St Thomas Hospital), Quebec’s and Cameroon’s (Fundacion Mère Jerome Choudja) experiment. The predictive value of preoperative B-type natriuretic peptide in children undergoing heart surgery

T. Boulos Ksontini, M.-H. Perez*, N. Sekarski2, J. Cotting2, S. Di Bernardo1
1Pédiatrie Cardiologique Unit, CHUV, Lausanne; 2Pédiatrie Intensive Care Unit, CHUV, Lausanne

Introduction: Low cardiac output syndrome is frequent in children after heart surgery for congenital heart disease and may result in poor outcome and increased morbidity. In the adult population, preoperative brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) was shown to be predictive of postoperative complications. In children, the value of preoperative BNP on postoperative outcome is not so clear. The aim of this study was to determine the predictive value of preoperative BNP on postoperative outcome and low cardiac output syndrome in children after heart surgery for congenital heart disease.

Methods: We examined, retrospectively, the postoperative course of 97 pediatric patients (mean age 3.7 years, range 0-14 years old) who underwent heart surgery in a tertiary care pediatric intensive care setting. NTproBNP was measured preoperatively in all patients (median 412 pg/ml, range 12–35 000 pg/ml). Patients were divided into three groups according to their NTproBNP levels (group 1: 0–300 pg/ml, group 2: 300–600 pg/ml, group 3: >600 pg/ml) and then, correlations with postoperative outcomes were examined.

Results: We found that patients with a high preoperative BNP required more frequently prolonged (>2 days) mechanical ventilation (33% vs 40% vs 68%, p = 0.049) and stayed more frequently longer than 6 days in the intensive care unit (42% vs 50% vs 71%, p = 0.03). However, high preoperative BNP was not correlated with occurrence of the low cardiac output syndrome.

Conclusion: Preoperative BNP cannot be used, in children, as a reliable and sole predictor of postoperative low cardiac output syndrome. However it may help identify, before surgery, those patients at risk of having a difficult postoperative course.

Possible H1N1 associated encephalopathy of a 12 year old male with neuropsychiatric symptoms

Janach M1, Goetschel P2, Itt T1,Hackenb A3, Semmler A4, Teichler J.1
1University Childrens Hospital Zurich, Rehabilitation Center Attollern A.A.; 2Triemli Hospital, Department of Pediatrics, Zurich; 3University Childrens Hospital Zurich, Division of Neuropediatrics; 4University Hospital of Zurich, Department of Neurology

Introduction: Neurological complications such as seizures, encephalopathy, encephalitis, or transverse myelitis associated with influenza A H1N1 are well known and have all been previously reported. In contrast, there are only a few reports addressing cases with predominantly neuropsychiatric manifestations. We describe a patient with such a presentation.

Case Report: A 12-year-old male presented with a sudden onset of disorientation, amnesia, dynomia, and regressive behavior after a two days course of a common cold. No other neurologic findings were present. The diagnosis of a H1N1 infection was made on detection of the virus in the nasopharyngeal specimen. Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) and serologic testing were negative for other infectious agents (borelia, flavivirus, H5V). Blood tests for metabolic and autoimmune disorders were normal; A urine toxicology screen was negative. Neuroimaging (CT, repeated MRI) showed no pathological features. An unspecified diffuse bifrontal slowing was detected in an otherwise normal EEG. Apart from oligoclonal bands, the CSF examination was within normal range. The patient showed prolonged behavioural disturbance, motor stereotypes, and intermittent disorientation. He suffered from optic and acoustic hallucinations and had an excessive need for sleep. Symptoms occurred in several waves, lasting for days. Neuropsychological testing in a seemingly asymptomatic phase showed impaired executive function and a normal IQ. The patient required a course of neuropsychological rehabilitation.

Conclusion: H1N1-associated parainfectious encephalopathy should be considered as a differential diagnosis in children presenting with acute onset of neuropsychiatric symptoms during the influenza season. The presence of oligoclonal bands in the CSF might correspond with a parainfectious immunologic reaction also in context with H1N1 infection.

Interim results of the multidisciplinary weight-loss intervention study “Keep on moving”

Caveziel C1, Zumbrunn A2, Gittermann M3, Kindlerlinik, Kantonsspital Aarau; 1Institut für soziale Arbeit und Gesundheit, FH Nordwestschweiz

Introduction: Excess body fat is associated with long term detrimental cardiovascular and metabolic effects even in youth. “Keep On Moving” is a multidisciplinary weight-loss intervention study for obese (Body mass index (BMI) >P 97) children and adolescents from 11 to 16 years and their parents. The intervention is certified by the Swiss Society of Pediatrics, and is part of the nationwide evaluation project “kidsstep obesity”.

Methods: The intervention consists of medical, psychological, nutritional, and sportive mentoring, including peer coaching. The groups of 6–8 participants meet once to twice weekly over a period of 9 months, followed by less frequent meetings for another 15 months. In 2009 and 2010, a total of 32 children were enrolled. There were 3 drop outs. Before and after one year after commencing the intervention the following data were obtained: physical exam, height, weight, waist and hip circumference, Tanner stage, blood pressure, fasting blood glucose, insulin and lipid profiles, ASAT/ALAT, and dual energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) for determining whole body fat, bone mineral density (BMD) and bone mineral content (BCM). BMI was expressed as standard deviation score (SDSBMI) from the median.

Main Results: At the beginning (t0) of the intervention, the mean BMI SDS was 2.6, DXA body fat percentage was 41.0%. After one year (t1) total body fat was reduced to 37.5% corresponding to a reduction of (mean ± SD) 9.0 ± 13% of the initial body fat percentage. The mean BMI SDS was reduced to 2.5.

Conclusion: The intervention study “Keep on moving” has been able to help significantly reduce the body fat mass by an average of 9% for the first two groups in the trial. The achievements of individual participants differ widely. The reduction in %body fat is not accompanied by a reduction of BMI SDS, possibly due to an increase in lean body mass induced by more physical activity.
A child in decay: Severe malnutrition due to vegan diet
Haebeli S.1, Keller E.1, Künzle C.2, Guidi Margaris T.1, Meyer-Heim A.1
1Rehabilitation Center Affoltern am Albis, University Children’s Hospital Zurich; 2Division of Neuroradiology, Children’s Hospital of Chur; 3Division of Rehabilitation, Children’s Hospital of St. Gallen; 4Division of Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital of St. Gallen

Introduction: A strict vegan diet is known to cause severe neurological damage due to vitamin b12 deficiency. To demonstrate the harmful consequences, we present the case of a boy with severe impairment because of severe malnutrition.

Case report: An 8 year old boy was found by the paramedic team unconscious and in respiratory distress at home. His parents called emergency services due to a continuous worsening of his general condition with difficulty breathing. The boy was exclusively breastfed for the first 21 months by a vegan mother and thereafter, he was nourished on a strict vegan diet. Until the incident, he had never been seen by a doctor nor received any vaccines. The family had no permanent residence and has been on a journey around the world living in a seclusive system. He was transferred to the intensive care unit.

Diagnostics revealed hypovolemic shock due to severe megablastic anemia (HB 28 g/l, Hkt 8%, MCV 120 fl), prerenal failure, hepatic failure, and a severe coagulation disorder. It was complicated by decompensated bilateral pulmonary edema with evidence of corynebacterium pseudodiphtericum and RSV. Consequence of severe b12- deficiency was a pancytopenia, cerebral atrophy, and a paraplegia (above L3/4) with a sacral decubitus. Severe osteoporosis resulted in recurrent pathological fractures. After initial treatment including IV vitamin b12, he was transferred to rehabilitation services continuing the peroral supplementation of nutrients. The osteodensitometry after 11 month showed improved osteodensity, but still within the range of osteoporosis. 13 months after beginning of medical treatment, improvements of motor function have been observed. Time and further investigation will reveal the exact scale of irreversible damage.

Conclusion: Children with strict vegan diets are at great risk of severe neurological problems and need specific supplementation and substitutions. It is difficult to detect the harmful effects in the early stage; for this reason, medical personnel should pay particular attention.

Subglottic stenosis after bacterial laryngotracheitis
Arnold F, Latzkin P, Regamey N, Monnier Ph, Casaulta C.
Department of Paediatrics, University Children’s Hospital of Bern, Switzerland

Background: Bacterial laryngotracheitis is a feared infection in children. In severe cases invasive ventilation is necessary. Subglottic stenosis after intubation is a known complication.

Case report: A four-year-old boy was admitted to the emergency service with an asthma attack and silent chest. He was admitted to ICU for intensive bronchial dilatatory treatment and respiratory support. The patient showed severe wheezing and inspiratory stridor but always breathed partly normally; intubation was not considered. Based on the clinical picture and on blood culture results, the diagnoses of invasive streptococcus group A infection with bacteremia, pneumonia and laryngotracheitis were made. The child was treated with cefuroxim 50 mg/kg tid. Because of persistent fever and enlarged mediastinum, treatment was changed to meropenem 40 mg/kg tid. Because of persistent inspiratory stridor and hoarseness, bronchoscopy was performed sixteen days after admission and revealed a pseudomembranous alteration of the glottis and subglottic area with poor vocal cord movement. Diphtheria was ruled out. Twelve days later bronchoscopy showed a slight improvement of the vocal cord mobility and trachea opening, and because the child had otherwise fully recovered he was discharged home. Two weeks later the child presented again with an emergency tracheostomy. For respiratory infection, severe inspiratory stridor and obstructive breathing. Bronchoscopy showed scarred tissue in the glottis and subglottic area with a glottic stenosis and a synechia of the anterior glottis leaving only a 3mm slot for air-entry. The child was referred to the ENT-Department of Lausanne where he was treated by CO2 laser. A glottical implant was inserted after securment of the airways by a tracheostoma. Back to our unit the child and his parents are getting trained to manage the tracheostomy. The plan is to remove tracheostoma and prothesis three months after surgery.

Conclusion: Bacterial laryngotracheitis may lead to severe subglottic stenosis in the course of preceding intubation. Surgical procedure with CO2 laser and maintenance of airway patency should lie in the hands of well trained surgeons.
Prevalence of at-risk criteria of psychosis and help-seeking behaviour – a population survey pilot
F. Schultze-Lutter1, C. Michel2, N. Schaffner3, B.G. Schimmelmann4
1University Hospital of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Bern, Switzerland

Introduction: In early detection of psychosis, two complementary approaches are mainly followed: (i) the 'ultra high risk' (UHR) criteria of an imminent risk including attenuated psychotic symptoms (APS), brief limited intermittent psychotic symptoms (BLIPS) and a combination of a genetic risk factor and a recent persistent significant decline in functioning and (ii) the basic symptom criteria 'cognitive-perceptive basic symptoms' (COPER) and 'cognitive disturbances' (COGDIS) that partially overlap but delineate risk of different imminence.

Results: Only one person (1.2%) fulfilled the attenuated psychotic symptom criterion according to SIPS, none the transient relevant symptoms but did not meet the time, frequency and severity criteria for APS. Nobody fulfilled at-risk criteria according to the basic symptom concept, although 8 persons reported relevant basic symptoms but at an insufficient frequency or as lacking change. Thus, altogether 12 persons (14.1%) had sub-threshold at-risk criteria for psychoses.

Conclusion: At-risk criteria are not as common as PLEs reported in epidemiological studies, and thus might be able to delineate a clinically relevant psychopathological state. These results, however, have to be confirmed in a larger sample.

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At-Risk Criteria of Psychosis: Reliability between Interviewers and Interview Modes
C. Michel1, B.G. Schimmelmann1, M. Siegwart1, F. Schultze-Lutter1
1University Hospital of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Bern, Switzerland

Introduction: In the early detection of psychosis, two at-risk approaches are currently mainly followed: (i) the 'ultra high risk' (UHR) criteria of an imminent risk including attenuated psychotic symptoms (APS), brief limited intermittent psychotic symptoms (BLIPS) and a combination of a genetic risk factor and a recent persistent significant decline in functioning and (ii) the basic symptom criteria 'cognitive-perceptive basic symptoms' (COPER) and 'cognitive disturbances' (COGDIS) that partially overlap but delineate risk of different imminence.

Methods: The study was conducted on 31 psychiatric in-and outpatient as well as 16 non-clinical subjects. The two interviewers (clinical psychologists) worked in parallel, each interviewing a group of subjects.

Results: The interrater reliability for the four symptomatic at-risk criteria (COPER, COGDIS, APS and BLIPS) showed good to excellent interrater reliability (κ = 0.632-1.0). Further, both interviewers led to an agreement for the presence of the 22 at-risk symptoms between 60% and 100%. With regard to the presence of the four symptomatic at-risk, k-values also showed good to excellent reliability of telephone interviews.

Conclusion: The interrater reliability is sufficient following training of the instruments. Further, the results indicate that the use of telephone interviews to collect data on at-risk criteria is justified.

The early detection of psychosis from the perspective of child and adolescent psychiatry
B.G. Schimmelmann, C. Michel, F. Schultze-Lutter
University Hospital of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Bern, Switzerland

To fight the devastating consequences of psychosis, early detection and treatment of persons at-risk of developing psychosis is currently regarded a promising strategy. Two at-risk approaches have been developed on mainly adult samples: (1) the ultra high risk (UHR) and (2) the basic symptom criteria. Although psychoses frequently start in adolescence, in has been studied whether they can be transferred to children and adolescents. From the few studies on pure child and adolescent samples regarding UHR-criteria, there is indication of some attenuated psychotic symptoms being potentially non-specific in adolescents and brief limited intermittent symptoms being difficult to clinically classify in children when observational behavioural correlates are missing. For basic symptoms, preliminary samples indicate that, similar to results in adult populations, basic cognitive symptoms may be promising candidates for at-risk criteria. Yet, as some developmental peculiarities in children have to be considered in the assessment of basic symptoms, a child and youth version of the Schizophrenia Proneness Instrument (SPI-CY) has been developed. However, only a small pilot study has hitherto systematically examined the clinical validity and predictive value of at-risk its use in children and adolescents. Thus, research is needed to examine if at-risk criteria have to be tailored to the special needs of children and adolescents. If a ‘Prodomal Risk Syndrome for Psychosis’ is included in DSM-V, it will be indispensable to highlight that its suitability for children and adolescents is not yet known.

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BESTEKKE – Berne study on the influence of parental mental disorder on the development of their children
Kupferschmid S.¹, Desch E.¹, Bühler S.², Walter C.¹, Müller Th.¹; Felder W.¹
¹Univ. Hospital of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Bern; ²Univ. Hospital of Psychiatry, Bern

Introduction: Psychopathology and psychiatric disorders in parents present a developmental risk for their offspring. A large body of literature of the last two decades shows that the risk of these children to develop a psychiatric disorder is increased by factor 3 compared to normal population. Authors like Cummings, Davies and Mattejat propose in frame models the influence of quality of interpersonal relationship, coping strategies and environmental factors.

Methods: In a first account the psychopathology of the parents was described and their health status was screened by a modified Sheehan Disability Scale (SDS) and BDI. The Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) was administered for the children and the psychosocial risk factors in the family were measured by the Family Adversity Index. In a second step parent and their offspring are examined together, by using the K-SADS, the dyadic coping inventory (DCI), parenting style inventory (ESI) and the inventory of life quality (ILK).

Results: Since October 2008 a full population survey has been accomplished. More than 1600 consecutively administered patients were included, 299 (18%) of them with children under the age of eighteen. In a second study group (N = 70) a high correlation was found between both negative and positive parenting style and the psychopathological burden of the child.

Conclusion: Parenting style is a mechanism of transmission on children’s mental health and quality of life. In our view parenting style could be a target for prevention as well as for family-based intervention.

When acute becomes chronic: Increased blood flow in frontal and cingulate brain regions of a 17-year-old boy with a chronic derealisation phenomenon after having used cannabis twice
Kupferschmid S.¹, Hult, D.², Federspiel A.¹, Jann K.¹, Hauf, M.¹, Schimmelmann B.³ G.¹
¹Univ. Hospital of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Bern; ²Univ. Hospital of Psychiatry, Bern; ³Department of Psychiatric Neuropsychology, Univ. Hospital of Psychiatry, Bern; ⁴Institute of Diagnostic and Interventional Neuroradiology Inselspital, University of Bern

Background: Depersonalisation/derealisation (DP/DR) phenomena are characterized by the subjective experiences of feeling unreal and detached from oneself as well as from the external world. These symptoms are relatively common in normal (1–2%) and psychiatric populations (up to 42–91%) dependent on the underlying disorder. Here we report increased blood flow (CBF) of a 17-year-old child with a chronic derealisation phenomenon after having used cannabis twice 2 years ago. His distressing symptomatology was characterized by feeling detached, like being in a dream, with 1–2 incidents per week of being uncertain whether or not he has actually experienced or dreamt a situation.

Method: CBF was assessed with MR-arterial spin labeling (ASL) in a 3 T MR scanner (Siemens Magnetom TRIO), once in a resting state, one in the condition experiencing a dreamt a situation.

Results: Using ASL, we found increased regional CBF in the anterior cingulate gyrus as well as in the right frontal inferior gyrus relative to other brain regions in a resting condition. Subjectively, the patient reported 4-5/s on a visual analogue scale for experience of DR. Under provocation of DR, 7-8/s on the visual analogue scale, these increases were even more pronounced. The very same regions showed higher activations during the fMRI measurements under provocation (level 9/10) compared with a resting state (4/10). Here, we found activation in the very same regions found in the CBF measurement: Right Broca aequivalent, dorsolateral prefrontal cortex and anterior cingulate gyrus.

Cannabis use disorder and age at onset of psychosis – A study in first-episode patients
Stephan Kupferschmid¹, Philippe Conus², Anne Karow³, Frauke Schulte-Lutter¹, Patrick McGorry¹, Martin Lambert¹, Benno G. Schimmelmann¹
¹University Hospital of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Bern; ²Psychosis Early Detection and Intervention Centre (PEDIC), Department of Psychiatry, CHUV, Lausanne; ³Orygen Youth Health and Research Centre, Centre for Youth Mental Health, Melbourne, Australia; ⁴Psychosis Early Detection and Intervention Centre (PEDIC), Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Germany

Introduction: Age at onset of psychosis (AAO) may be younger in patients with cannabis use disorders (CUD) compared to those without CUD (NCUD). Previous studies included CUD co-morbid with other substance use disorders (SUD), and many did not control for confounders.

Methods: Controlling for relevant confounders, differences in AAO between patients with and without CUD excluding those with any other SUD were analyzed in a large representative file audit of 625 first-episode psychosis (FEP) patients (age 14 to 29 years) admitted to the Early Psychosis Prevention and Intervention Centre in Melbourne, Australia.

Results: Three quarters of the 625 FEP patients had a CUD. Cannabis use started before psychosis onset in 87.6% of patients. AAO was not significantly different between CUD (without other SUD, n = 201) and NCUD (n = 157). However, AAO was younger in those with early CUD (starting age 14 or younger) compared to NCUD (F(1) = 5.2, p = 0.024; partial η² = 0.026). Earlier AAO was associated with Cannabis use predicted earlier age at onset of psychosis (β = –0.49, R²-change = 0.25, p<0.001).

Conclusion: Only CUD starting age 14 or younger was associated with an earlier AAO at a small effect size. These findings suggest that CUD may exert an indirect effect on brain maturation resulting in earlier AAO potentially only in cannabis sensitive subjects.

Surveillance of early onset eating disorders – a multi-national comparison
Lynn R.¹, Nicholl D.¹, Viner R.², Phinas L.³, Madden S.⁴
¹British Paediatric Surveillance Unit, London, UK; ²Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, UK; ³Rusell Viner, Institute of Child Health, London, UK; ⁴Toronto Children’s Hospital, Canada; ⁵Children’s Hospital at Westmead, Sydney, Australia

Introduction: The ambiguous position of early-onset eating disorders (EOED: onset < age 13) between paediatric and mental health services, together with difficulties of recognition in this age group, has led to gaps in knowledge about prevalence, presentation and management. This paper describes and compares the range of clinical features and co-morbidities at presentation collected through the national paediatric surveillance units.

Methods: Prospective active surveillance was conducted in Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom between July 2002 and May. A report card/email was sent monthly to consultant paediatricians and...
Interdisciplinary systemic team education in inpatient adolescent psychiatry – effects on cooperation and distress

Eckrich H.1, Wöckel L.1, Schweitzer J.2, Schmeck K.1
1Center of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Clinia Littenheid AG, Littenheid, Switzerland; 2Institute of Medical Psychology, University of Heidelberg, Germany; 3Department of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, University of Basel, Switzerland

Introduction: To work in an acute adolescent psychiatry unit means being confronted with very challenging situations. Internal problems as staff shortage or dysfunctional communication and external conditions like conflicting requests, e.g. help versus control, lead to dismissals, be away sick, no learning from mistakes, focusing on problems and deficits, violence and terminations of treatment. The aim of the study is to investigate whether a multi-professional team education with systemic topics, like techniques in communication and negotiation, understanding interaction processes, recursiveness and much more, helps to reduce the mentioned problems and to raise satisfaction of everyone.

Methods: The trial was done in a pre-post design. Standardized questionnaires of job satisfaction, just before and half a year after team handing over, are helpfully. Especially the adolescents embrace in every time being member of their own case conferences.

Conclusion: Interdisciplinary team education with systemic topics seems to be suitable to improve quality of patient care and interdisciplinary cooperation and to reduce staff distress.

Treatment of a female adolescent with type 1 diabetes mellitus and comorbid anorexia nervosa

Kopecky A.1, Egle-Odenigbo E.1, Houwing H.J.1, Voges J.2, Schwegler B.1, Wöckel L.1
1Center of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Clinia Littenheid AG, Littenheid; 2Zuger Kantonsspital AG, Baar

Objective: Type 1 diabetes mellitus (DMT 1) is associated with a higher prevalence of bulimia nervosa (BN) in females. Furthermore, the development of DMT 1 in predisidence or adolescence seems to be a risk factor in girls for subsequent development of anorexia nervosa (AN), as well. The aim of this case report is the presentation of insulin misuse in a patient with AN and the therapeutic implications. We will give a review of comorbid occurrence of DMT 1 and AN.

Methods: A 17-year-old female adolescent was admitted with a BMI of 14.3 kg/m² (<P3) and a HbA1c of 16.2. She fulfilled all criteria of AN (ICD-10) including bingeing and had a history of 11 years of DMT 1 with distinct malcompliance. Onset of AN was with the age of 14. Since then, inpatient and outpatient episodes in child and adolescent psychiatric services were ongoing up to admittance in Littenheid.

Systematical and behavioral therapy were combined with nutritional and medical treatment. For diabetes management an endocrinologist was consulted.

Results: An increase of BMI during inpatient treatment was associated with higher levels of concern about shape and weight and consequently had implications for diabetes management. Despite malcompliance during the first weeks of treatment, the adolescent achieved a continual weight gain (BMI at discharge = 18.7 kg/m², <P25), decrease in bingeing and an autonomous management of insulin (HbA1c at discharge = 14.0).

Conclusions: We describe the successful inpatient treatment of a female adolescent with DMT 1 and comorbid AN and subsequently surveyed catamnetic data. Insulin-purging and features associated with DMT 1 like weight gain, dietary restraint and food preoccupation complicate the treatment of AN and will be discussed.

Neonatal Morbidity in Singleton Late Preterm Infants Compared With Full-Term Infants

From the Division of Neonatology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University Hospital Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
Corresponding author: Leone A, MD (antonio.leone@usz.ch) Division of Neonatology, University Hospital Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

Aim: To test the hypothesis that singleton late preterm infants (34 0/7 to 36 6/7 weeks of gestation) compared with full-term infants have a higher incidence of short-term morbidity and stay longer in hospital. Methods: In this retrospective, multi-centre study electronic data of children born at 5 hospitals in Switzerland were recorded. Short-term outcome of late preterm infants were compared with a control group of full-term infants (39 0/7 to 40 6/7 weeks of gestation). Multiple gestations, pregnancies complicated by fetal malformations, maternal consumption of illicit drugs as well as infants with incomplete documentation were excluded. The results were corrected for gender imbalance.

Results: Data from 530 late preterm and 1686 full-term infants were analyzed. Compared with full-term infants, late preterm infants had a much higher morbidity: respiratory distress (34.7% versus 4.6%, p <0.001), need for oxygen administration (16.6% versus 2.3%, p <0.001), hyperbilirubinaemia (47.7% versus 3.4%, p <0.001), hypoglycaemia (14.3% versus 0.6%, p <0.001), hypothermia (2.5% versus 0.6%, p <0.001), duration of hospitalization (mean 9.9 days versus 5.2 days, p <0.001). The risk to develop at least one complication was 7.6 times higher (95% CI 6.2–9.6) among late preterm infants (70.8%) than full-term infants (9.3%) and correlated negatively with gestational age.

Conclusion: Singleton late preterm infants (34 0/7 to 36 6/7 gestational weeks) show considerably higher rate of medical complications and prolonged hospital stay than matched full-term infants and therefore need much more medical and financial resources.
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