EVALUATION OF LEPTIN LEVEL IN THE BLOOD SERUM IN CHILDREN AT AN EARLY AGE

Actuality of the problem It is known that obesity starts in early childhood, when the foundations of eating behaviour and metabolic processes are formed in the organism.

Objective To investigate leptin level in the blood serum in children of an early age with excessive body mass (EBM) and obesity.

Patients and methods We have conducted a complex examination of 120 children of an early age at risk of developing an EBM, EBM, obesity. The examined children were divided into groups according to the results of evaluation of physical development: the 1st group included children at risk of developing EBM (38 children (31,6%); the 2nd group included children with EBM (42 children (35,0%); the 3rd group included children suffering from obesity (40 children (33,4%).

Results We have discovered a reliable elevation of leptin level in children suffering from EBM and obesity (7,83±0,76 ng/ml and 21,6±4,60 ng/ml respectively) in comparison with the children in the control group (2,90±0,21 ng/ml), (p<0,05).

Special attention was given to the reliable difference between the values of leptin levels in the examined children depending on their sex. Thus, in girls of the main group the level of leptin was reliably higher if compared to the leptin level in boys, (p<0,05).

In order to analyze the obtained results we studied the correlation between the values of body mass index and the level of leptin in the examined children. As a result of the conducted study we investigate sive correlation between leptin and body mass index (r=0,35; p<0,05) in children at risk of developing EBM, in children having EBM (r=0,4; p<0,05) and in children suffering from obesity (r=0,57; p<0,05).

Conclusions It has been established that the level of leptin in children of an early age depends on the body mass and sex of the children. Thus, children with obesity have a reliably higher level of hormone in comparison to the children with excessive body mass. It has been found that the level of leptin in girls is reliably higher if compared to the level of leptin in boys.

The role of leptin level in the development of obesity in children of an early age is confirmed by close correlation with body mass index. The elevated level of leptin in children of an early age at risk of developing EBM and suffering from EBM is a possible predictor of obesity development.

PREVENTION OF FOETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS – THE ROLE OF THE PAEDIATRICIAN

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It is estimated that about 600 Irish babies are born each year with Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), and that over 40,000 Irish persons live with the condition. Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) including FAS are a consequence of alcohol induced brain damage which is permanent and associated with physical, mental, educational, social, behavioural difficulties. Children with FASD fill our Foster Care places. Adults with...
AN AUDIT TO CHECK THE AWARENESS AMONG PAEDIATRIC NCHD ABOUT DOCUMENTATION OF CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT IN CLINIC LETTERS IN WEXFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL

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10.1136/archdischild-2019-epa.492

Introduction Development is the period of physical, cognitive and social growth that begins at birth and continues through childhood. Between 1–3% of children suffer from global delay. Maximum development occurs in the first two of years of life. Early recognition of developmental issues is important to have a better outcome, appropriate referral and involvement of other services.

Aim Aims of the audit is to see the awareness among NCHD (non consultant hospital doctors) towards development assessment and documentation in clinical letters of patients coming to clinic from Jan 2018 to July 2018.

Methodology Retrospective audit was done from January 2018 to July 2018.

A Proforma was designed and random clinic letters of patients attending paediatric clinic were screened for documentation of all six areas of childhood development (gross motor, fine motor vision, hearing, speech and language and social) seen by NCHD.

Results
1. Total 70 patients were included in the audit.
2. 45 male and 55 female patients.
3. Age range varies from 3 months to 13 years.
4. 35 (50%) of the patients were below 5 years of age.
5. Childhood development was mentioned in 30(43%) of patients.
6. 40 (57%) patients have no records of being screened for appropriate age related developmental milestones.
7. Out of 70 only 6 patients (8%) have their proper documentation about the development indicating all six areas of development.
8. Regarding different areas of development documentation was as follows:

- Gross motor 14(20%) Fine motor 10(14%) Vision 07(10%) Speech 12(17%) Hearing 06(08%) Social 11(15%)

Recommendations
1. Awareness should be raised among NCHDs about the importance of developmental assessment in children coming to clinic.
2. A regular training session for new doctors about routine developmental screen at the start of rotation may be helpful.
3. There should be a brief developmental check list and clinic letter layout displayed in clinic area settings.
4. More opportunities should be given to NCHDs to attend developmental clinics.

IMPACT OF CHRONIC PAIN ON ADOLESCENTS’ SCHOOL FUNCTIONING: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

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10.1136/archdischild-2019-epa.493

Background Chronic pain that persists for more than three months and continues beyond the normal period of tissue healing is considered as a significant health problem among children. Chronic pain has a significant impact on children and adolescents’ daily activities. Importantly, school functioning including school attendance, academic achievement, perceptions of self and teacher towards academic competence, classroom attention, participation in school activities, and social functioning, appears to be influenced by paediatric chronic pain. It is therefore important to manage the pain of children and adolescents in the school settings in order to minimise impact on school functioning.

Objective This aim of this review was to critically synthesise current empirical studies on the impact of chronic pain on