A STUDY OF PATTERNS OF ANTIMICROBIAL DRUGS USE IN THE TREATMENT OF UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS IN CHILDREN AT THIKA LEVEL 5 HOSPITAL THIKA

A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED

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ABSTRACT

Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (URTIs) in children has a tremendous impact on public health. They are among the most common reasons for visits to primary health care providers, in the absence of clinical evidence of bacterial infection, treatment remains entirely symptomatic. URTIs are the leading course for which antimicrobial drugs are prescribed in outpatient department, at Thika level 5 Hospital. This study was undertaken to establish the use of Antimicrobial Drugs in the treatment of Upper Respiratory Tract Infections in Children attending Thika level 5 Hospital.The aim of this study was to establishing the commonly encountered URTIs, commonly used antimicrobials in the management of URTI, correlate the antimicrobial usage to the clinical conditions diagnosed, establish the cost of the antimicrobial effectiveness in treatment on commonly occurring URTIs then finally determine the cost-effectiveness and rationality of the therapy. The method used in this study was prospective, retrospective, descriptive cross-sectional survey for upper respiratory tract infection from sampling frame of in eighty (80) patient's records of previously diagnosed and treated. Children records of between the age of one day (1) to twelve (12) years, with URTIs were retrieved from the Thika level 5 Hospital's pediatrics and records department. All primary care givers who participated in the study signed a written consent form. Data relating to the patients biodata, diagnosis, concurrent ailments, antimicrobial type and cost were extracted then entered into a structured questionnaire. The information in the structured questionnaire was grouped, checked, and cleaned of errors. The data was analyzed by use of computer statistical packages (SPSS) and presented in the text using frequency table, pie charts and bar graphs. The study revealed widespread use of antimicrobial agents for URTIs, the enormous use of antimicrobial for these illnesses may contribute to the rise in antimicrobial resistance among common community-acquired pathogens. To overcome this challenges a survey on resistance patterns of antimicrobial should be done to ascertain the effectiveness of commonly used antimicrobial at the hospital and Antimicrobial rational use guidelines should be established to guide the attending physicians on protocols of their use, in order to make proper diagnosis and treatment of URTIs in Children. Finally the outcome and recommendations shall be used to establish, the rational use of Antimicrobial Drugs in the treatment of URTI's in Children.