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CLINICAL SUMMARY

SUMMARY OF:

ANAPHYLAXIS DURING ANESTHESIA: RESULTS OF A 12-YEAR SURVEY AT A FRENCH PEDIATRIC CENTER

By: C. Karila, D. Brunet-Langot, F. Labbez, O. Jacqmarcq, C. Ponvert, J. Paupe, P. Scheinmann, J. de Blic

BACKGROUND

68 children were reported to the Pediatric Pneumology and Allergology Dept. in Paris, France due to an occurrence of anaphylaxis during general anesthesia. This study looked at different tests to see what agents were responsible for this reaction.

OVERVIEW

During the period of time between 1989 and2001, 68 children were tested based on their experience of anaphylactic shock during general anesthesia. The study looked at which drugs were involved, and whether it is important to perform skin testing to manage future anesthetic procedures.

RESULTS

In the findings of the 12-year study, 51 children were diagnosed with IgE-mediated anaphylaxis. 60.8% (31 children) for neuromuscular blocking agents (NMBA) and 27% (14 children) for latex. It was discovered that every 1 in 2100 anesthetic procedures resulted in a IgE-mediated anaphylactic incident. This number is much higher than anticipated.

CONCLUSION

NMBA and Latex are the two biggest contributors to an IgE-medicated anaphylaxis reaction in children. The use of latex should be avoided when operating on children who have had numerous surgical procedures under anesthesia. It was also discovered that it is beneficial to have a consultation with both an anesthesiologist and allergist once an anaphylactic event occurs, and after a positive skin test, so to prevent the incident from occurring again.

References 1. Karila et al., Anaphylaxis during anesthesia:results of a 12-year survery at a French pediatric center. Allergy 2005: 60: 828-834

Ansell Healthcare Products LLC
111 Wood Avenue, Suite 210
Iselin, NJ 08830 USA
Tel: + 1 732.345.5400
Fax: + 1 732.219.5114

www.ansell.com