

# Adverse drug reactions and ADRs

**abstract: Objective.** There are few publications of adverse drug reactions (ADRs) among pediatric patients, though ADRs incidence is usually stated to be higher during the first year of life.

We were assessed this study to carried out the frequency and characteristics of ADRs in children hospitalized in the pediatric department of general surgery of Children's Medical Center in Tehran, Iran.

**Methods.** Between April and September 2003, while the patients were admitting in the Pediatric general surgery ward. Data were gathered via two questionnaires, one for all admitted patients and two for patients with suspected adverse drug reactions.

**Results.** Of 81 children treated with drugs, 3.7% experienced ADRs. Severity of ADRs in 2 cases was classified as moderate and in the other one was as mild and the most frequent reactions were skin reactions. 100% of the ADRs occurred during hospitalization and the suspected medication had to be discontinued in cases and new drugs were necessary to manage the ADRs in 2 patients.

**Conclusions.** Hospitalized patients exhibited an ADR risk profile that included female sex and the number of drugs administered. No particular age predisposition was observed. The most commonly prescribed drugs (antibiotics in pediatric patients) are those most often implicated in ADRs in our patients.

**Key words:** adverse drug reaction, children, hospitalized, general surgery

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