

Drugs may contribute to the appearance of oral-facial clefts in newborns

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Introduction

A cleft is a gap in a body structure that results from incomplete closing of a specific structure during development. Clefts that occur in the lip and palate (roof of the mouth) are called oral-facial clefts. These defects occur very early during fetal development. Cleft lips and palates may be caused by a combination of genetic and environmental factors.

Conclusion

Maternal drug abuse (amoxicillin, phenytoin, oxprenolol, and thiethylperazine taken during the second and third month of pregnancy), smoking and pesticide exposure were registered as the statistically significant risk factors for oral-facial defects in newborns.

Aim

The aim of this study was to evaluate potential risk factors in children hospitalized in the faculty hospital of Stip for effective preventive measures reducing an appearance of oral-facial clefts in newborns.

Results

The results indicated that during past 10 years there was an increasing tendency in the incidence rate of oral-facial clefts in newborns. Further, the oral-facial defects were accompanied by other complications such as feeding difficulties, frequent ear infections and hearing loss.

Material and methods

Oral-facial clefts were diagnosed by physical exam after delivery. Potential risks factors and drug exposure of mothers during pregnancy were analyzed.