

THE INCIDENCE OF LOWER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTION (LRTI) ON PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

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Introduction: Respiratory illnesses on children are common, serious and important. Chronic respiratory disease is also the second most common reason for hospitalisation.

Aim of the study: To confirm the incidence of LRTI on preschool children because that includes its large burden of disease and the effect of illness on the children.

Material and methods: The diagnosis consists of further careful observation, auscultation and percussion. A careful routine of observation is essential to identify LRTI early because most often lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI) is accompanied by fever and may be preceded by a typical viral upper respiratory tract infection (URTI).

Results: In January to March (2011) in Clinical hospital in Shtip (R. of Macedonia) were hospitalized 392 preschool children. 79 of them had LRTI and they were hospitalised twice in the year and 3% were hospitalised five times or more. Lower respiratory infections (LRI) include bronchitis, bronchiolitis, pneumonia, empyema, endobronchial infection, suppurative lung disease, lung abscesses, croup and pertussis. Chronic respiratory infection has been demonstrated in 26% of children.

Conclusion: Results suggest that LRTI usually consists in the first months of the year and they rapidly increased every year. LRTI is an independent risk factor for cardiovascular illness.