Natural History of Wheezing in a cohort of children of Havana, Cuba. "HINASIC"

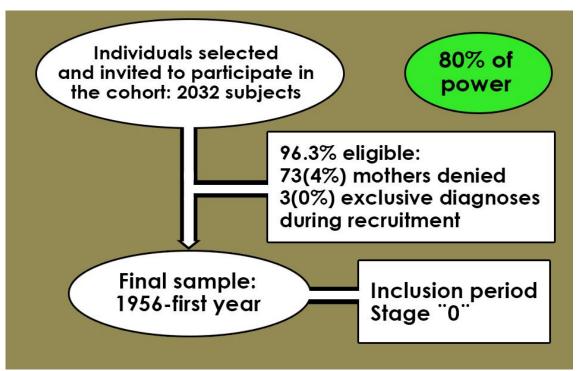
Informative Report #5 – Use of antibiotics

The National Institute of Hygiene Epidemiology and Microbiology of Cuba, in collaboration with the University of Nottingham, UK, has lead the study of a cohort of children from birth in order to identify the incidence, characteristics and risk or protective factors associated to wheezing in preschool.

The first results are presented in this report.

PARTICIPANT POPULATION 2010-2011

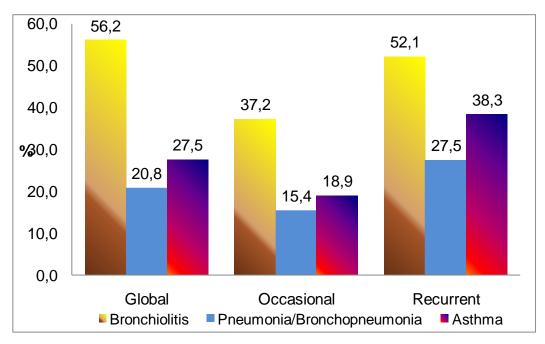
Recruitment diagram



During the period 2010-2011 was requested the agreement of parents or guardians of selected children representative of Havana, Cuba, to participate in the HINASIC study. ISAAC questionnaire was applied, with the addition of questions by interest of the researchers and were carry out laboratory tests (stool, total IgE, eosinophil full count and complete blood count with differential).

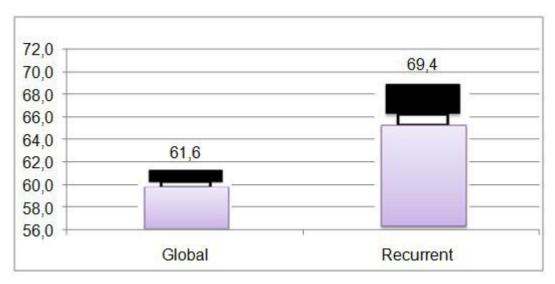
Results (year 2010-2011)

Medical diagnostics issued according to the classification of wheezing episode. HINASIC, 2010- 2011.



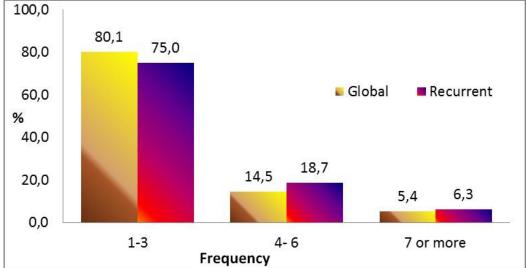
Bronchiolitis is the most common medical diagnosis issued by the physicians facing the episode of wheezing (56.2%) similar to what happens with recurrent wheezing (52.1%).

Antibiotic prescribing to episodes of wheezing. HINASIC, 2010-2011.



In 61.6% of infants with wheezing it has been prescribed by the doctor the use of antibiotic as well as in 69.4% of recurrent wheezing.





The prescription of antibiotics for one to three times a year has been about eight out of ten infants with wheezing (global and recurrent).

Conclusions

Bronchiolitis, mainly a viral disease, is reported by doctors as the most important cause of episodes of wheezing in the infant. The prescription of antibiotics and repeated indication to the wheezing is high and not sufficiently justified, therefore, it is a bad practice in health services which leads to a health problem. The inappropriate use of antibiotic therapy at this age, could encourage the emergence of further consequences on growth and development of other diseases. In the near future appropriate measures to promote adequate therapeutic behaviour in physicians should be taken.

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