Epidemiological Profile of Acute Respiratory Infections Hospitalized in Infants and Children Under 15 Years of Age, Hospital Immaculée, Cayes, Haiti, 2019-2021

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Abstract : Background: Acute respiratory infections are a major public health problem in the world, mainly in vulnerable populations such as newborns, children under five years of age, and the elderly. The objective of this study was to Characterize the cases of acute respiratory infections in infants and under 15 years old hospitalized at the Immaculée Conception Hospital in Cayes from January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2021. Methods: A retrospective descriptive study was conducted on the epidemiology profile of acute respiratory infections hospitalized in the pediatric ward at Immaculée Conception Hospital in Les Cayes from January 2019 to December 2021. The study population consisted of all newborns, infants, and children under 15 years of age diagnosed with respiratory infections at the pediatric service. Data were collected from the hospitalization registers and patient records of this unit. A database was created and used for data collection. Excel and Epi info 7.2 were used for data analysis. Results: A total of 588 cases were identified during the 2019-2021 year. 43.5% (256) were female, and 56.5% (332) were male. The average age was 4, 3. The most affected age group was 1-4 years. The male/female sex ratio was 1.2. The most frequent respiratory infections were respectively pneumonia 44.9%, bronchitis 16.5%, and respiratory distress 10.5%. The mortality rate recorded during this period was 4.4%. Conclusion: Acute respiratory infections are more frequent in young children. It is, therefore, necessary to practice hand hygiene. Reinforce the surveillance of severe acute respiratory infections.
Keywords : acute respiratory infections, pediatrics, cayes, haiti
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