The Evaluation of Children Who Had Chest Pain on Pediatric Emergency Department

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Abstract: Background: Chest pain is a common complaint in children visiting the emergency department (ED). True organic problems like cardiac disease are rare. We assess the etiology of chest pain among children visiting a Pediatric ED in Eskisehir Osmangazi University. Method: We prospectively evaluated of children with chest pain who visited our Pediatric ED between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2014. Any case of trauma-associated chest pain was excluded from this study. Results: A total of 100 patients (54 boys, 46 girls), mean age: 11,86±3,51 (age range, 6-17 years) were enrolled into this study; 100 patients had chest radiograms (100 %). Pneumonia was identified in 15 patients. All patients had electrocardiogram study (100 %) and 16 of them showed abnormalities. Additional diagnostic tests were performed on all patients including complete blood count analysis, cardiac markers (CK-MB, Troponin I) and lactate (blood gas analysis). Echocardiograms were performed on all patients and 16 of them showed abnormality (five of majör abnormality). Panendoscopy was done in 20 patients, and gastroesophageal reflux was found in 12 (%12). Overall, idiopathic chest pain and myalgia was the most common diagnosis (32 %). Other associated disorders were asthma (12 %), panic attack (13 %). Conclusion: The most common cause of chest pain prompting a child to visit the ED is idiopathic chest pain. Careful physical examination can reveal important clues and save many unnecessary examinations.

Keywords: child, chest pain, pediatric emergency department, evaluation

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