RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTIONS CAUSED BY CHLAMYDOPHILA PNEUMONIAE IN CHILDREN IN THE LOWER SILESIA REGION IN 2011

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Background: The majority (80%) of Chlamydophila pneumoniae infections are asymptomatic. Symptomatic infections due to C. pneumoniae are associated withupperand lowerrespiratory tract infections. **Objective:** Analysis of the frequency of C. pneumoniae respiratory infections in children in the Lower Silesia Region in 2011. **Material and methods:** 303 throat swabs obtained from 130 girls and 173 boys, aged 20 months to 18 years, were tested. The patients who were entered into the study were treated due to various respiratory disorders. Examinations were performed by IFA technique, using the Chlamydia Cell PN testing kits (Cellabs Pty Ltd., Sydney, Australia). **Results:** Respiratory infection due to C. pneumoniae (the presence of C. pneumoniae antigen) was detected in 95/303 (31.4%) of all examined children (in 48/130 (36.9%) of girls and in 47/173 (27.2%) of boys). In the group of patients with dry cough, as the most common presenting clinical symptom of respiratory infection, the positive IFA test results for Chlamydophila pneumoniae occurred in 32 out of 94 (34.0%) of girls and in 34 out of 117 (29.1%) of boys. In the case of examined children with other prevailing clinical symptom, which was cough with discharge and runny nose, the positive tests for Chlamydophila pneumoniae were shown in 13 out of 27 (48.1%) of girls and in 9 out of 42 (21.4%) of boys. In the group of children without symptoms of infection, who had direct contact with a Chlamydophila pneumoniae infected person, there were 3 out of 9 (33.3%) of girls and 4 out of 14 (28.6%) of boys positively tested cases. **Conclusions:** The incidence of infections caused by Chamydophila pneumoniae in children in the Lower Silesia Region in 2011 varies according to clinical symptoms and seasonality. There were no clear gender and age-related differences. Key words: C. pneumoniae, IF, infections.