

NUMBER OF VISITS TO ALLERGY CENTER FOR SPECIFIC IMMUNOTHERAPY IN 2008-2011

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Background: Atopic diseases are increasingly diagnosed in the population of developed countries. These include bronchial asthma, pollinosis, allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis and urticaria. Specific immunotherapy is a peculiar medical treatment undertaken in allergic rhinitis and pollinosis, less often in urticaria. Immunotherapy is usually carried out throughout a year or in selected cases seasonally/ on a seasonal basis. **Objectives:** epidemiological studies were carried out to assess trends in the analysis of advice given to patients in relation to the quantity of patients with immunotherapy used in individual months from 2008-2011. **Methods and materials:** Material for the analysis has been obtained from Statistics Department of Lung Diseases Centre in Wroclaw where the biggest Allergy Centre exists. The material consisted of the following: the general number of visits, first appointments and patients who underwent immunotherapy every month in years 2008-2011. Figures were presented as a percentage and Student's t- test was used for further calculations. **Results:** in the following years and months the below numbers of patients were seen in the allergy center: 740-1252 patients in 2008: most desensitized patients in January – 647 people 763-1025 patients in 2009: most patients underwent immunotherapy in January as well-563 573-1271 patients in 2010: most desensitized patients in March- 565 605-1208 patients in 2011, most patients underwent immunotherapy in March- 547 allergic people. **Conclusions:** Years 2008-2011 showed that most allergic patients were seen and advised from January to April each year, with a similar trend for specific immunotherapy. Most of the treatments were carried out in the first quarter of each year, which resulted from summing of yearlong specific immunotherapy and seasonal immunotherapy of pollinosis. The number of patients who underwent deallergisations is 40-50% of all patients visiting the allergy clinic each month.