

GROWTH AND NUTRITIONAL STATUS IN CHILDREN WITH CHRONIC AND RECURRENT BRONCHITIS

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Recurrent bronchitis is a common and serious health problem in children frequent bronchitis in infancy increases the risk of developing chronic respiratory diseases p the aim of the study was to assess the level of growth and the nutritional status in children and youths with special regard to the level of body fatness assessed by measuring skin- fold thickness the evaluation also included the spirometric parameters and the somatic development depending on the clinical course of the disease p the study was carried out using anthropometric and spirometric measurements and also information on the severity and course of the disease in children with chronic or recurrent bronchitis all of the subjects were patients of the pulmonary medicine and allergology centre in karpacz poland p mean body height did not differ significantly between the children examined and their healthy peers however the observation reported excessive body fatness and muscle mass deficiency the increased level of subcutaneous adipose tissue occurred especially in children with short duration of the disease i e a maximum of one year the average functional lung parameters were generally normal the presence of atopic diseases such as allergic rhinitis or atopic dermatitis did not impair the course of the somatic development in subjects also long-term disease or the presence of additional allergic diseases did not deteriorate the functional parameters of the lungs in the study children taking appropriate preventive measures is recommended to achieve and maintain normal body weight in children who receive long-term therapy.