

## EFFICACY OF PROTON-PUMP INHIBITORS IN CHILDREN WITH RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS OF GASTROESOPHAGEAL REFLUX DISEASE

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**Background:** The control of oesophageal acid exposure through gastric acid inhibition using proton-pump inhibitors (PPI) is the base of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease (GERD) treatment. The efficacy of antisecretory treatment on extraesophageal symptoms is still questionable.

**Objective:** The aim of the study was to determine effect of PPI in treatment of respiratory symptoms associated with GERD. **Methods:** From 250 children, who underwent 24-hour pH-metry fifty-seven children (31 boys, 26 girls, mean age  $7,69 \pm 3,20$  year) were enrolled in the study. They underwent 24- hour pH-metry for persistent respiratory symptoms (chronic cough, recurrent respiratory tract infections, and uncontrolled bronchial asthma) and control evaluation after 3 to 6 months treatment with PPI. DeMeester score was used to distinguish patients with physiological reflux from patients with pathological reflux. **Results:** We observed clinical improvement after PPI treatment ( $p < 0,001$ ). Nonsignificant decrease of DeMeester score ( $p = 0,058$ ) was noticed.

**Conclusions:** PPI is not clearly efficacious for respiratory symptoms associated with GERD in children. Future paediatric studies should be realised.

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