

Abstract

Aim. To evaluate prevalence of the Food Hypersensitivity (FH) in children in Zaporizhia region of Ukraine with different methods of allergy diagnostics. To compare results of these methods with aim to identify the most effective approaches to diagnostics, treatment and prophylactics of FH in children.

Materials and methods. 148 children with skin symptoms of FH were included into the study in 2011-2015 (average age was 27,6 (12,1; 57,6) months). After anamnesis analysis children were made allergy tests, such as skin prick-, patch-tests, oral provocation test (OPT).

Results. 69.5 % of patients were less than 3 y.o. (n = 103). 39.8 % of patient couldn't identify causative product, 31 % – reported milk, 10 % – eggs. 1/3 of children with normal common IgE levels (42 %, n = 27) had increased sIgE (55,5 %, n = 25). Only 63 % of children with elevated IgE had positive prick-tests. 290 OPT were done (145 patients) with the main causative products, which had positive result in 1/3 of children, in 54 % of them – with only one product, in 10 % – two. OPT results correlated with common IgE level ($r = 0,36$, $p < 0,05$) and skin prick-test results ($r = 0,47$, $p < 0,05$).

Conclusions. FH prevalence in children of Zaporizhia region varies from 0.1 % to 16.2 % and depends on the method of diagnostics. Commonly (69,5 %) FH is diagnosed in children of first 3 y. of life. 1/6 of children up to 3 y.o. (16,4 %) and 1/10 – up to 4 y.o. (2,9 %) had true allergic mechanisms of FH, which were proven by sIgE. Strong limitation of diet is not needed in children with FH. Further research is needed to detect ethio-pathogenetic factors that can be targets for diagnostics, treatment and prophylactics of FH in children.

Key words: food hypersensitivity, children, prick-test, patch-test, oral provocation test.

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