

CURRENT VIEW ON CLINICAL USE OF SECOND GENERATION CEFALOSPORINS IN ACUTE INFECTIONS OF RESPIRATORY TRACT

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Abstract

Rational choice of antibiotic for empiric therapy of respiratory tract infection is an important component of daily task of general practitioners.

Major causative agents of pneumonia, upper respiratory tract infections, otitis media, sinusitis and tonsillopharyngitis are *S. pneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, *M. catarrhalis*, *S. aureus*, *S. pyogenes*. Most strains of these microorganisms are highly susceptible to second generation cephalosporin cefuroxime axetil. Oxime group protects the molecule of cefuroxime axetil from being destroyed by most of β -lactamases. This feature makes cefuroxime widely used in community-acquired infections of respiratory tract and HEENT organs. In patients with community-acquired pneumonia, acute otitis media and infectious exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease cefuroxime axetil is antibiotic of choice according to national and international guidelines. It can be effectively used in out-patient settings due to high eradication activity. This fact is essential for making a positive impression on the physicians regarding the use of oral forms of antibiotics in contrast to parenteral forms.

Key words: acute infections of respiratory tract, second generation cephalosporins, cefuroxime axetil.

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