

ACUTE INFECTIOUS EXACERBATION OF COPD: A CHOICE OF ANTIBIOTIC FOR OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT

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Abstract

Frequent acute exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) lead to rapid progression of the disease, decrease the quality of life of the patients, increase healthcare expenses and the mortality. Infection causes about 80 % of all acute exacerbations of COPD. The share of bacterial infection is about 50 %, whereas about 30 % of all exacerbations are caused by viruses.

The purpose of current review is to make physicians familiar with the major statements of national guidelines for the diagnosing and management of acute infectious exacerbations of COPD.

The symptoms and basic types of COPD exacerbations are described in this article; antibiotic therapy indications are presented; different groups of antibiotics are characterized with the recommendations for their choice.

On example of clinical case the successful use of levofloxacin (Levaxela, KRKA) in out-patient settings in patient with acute infectious exacerbation of COPD has been demonstrated.

Key words: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, out-patient treatment, levofloxacin.

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