EXPEDIENCY AND SAFETY OF NEBULIZER THERAPY IN PATIENTS WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY TRACT DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Abstract

The challenge for modern medicine in 2019–2021 is COVID-19 pandemic. The aerosol route of transmission of the new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 forces to reconsider the attitude to nebulizer therapy. Today, there is no consensus among public health organizations on the safety of nebulizer therapy.

Current specialized literature review is dedicated to the safety and expediency of use of nebulizer therapy. During a pandemic, an important task is to reduce the risk of infection, in patients with infectious diseases of the respiratory tract. It was established that after aerosol is formed in the nebulizer chamber it does not contain viral particles obtained from the patient.

In the absence of convincing evidence that the use of nebulizers increases the risk of transmission of respiratory viruses, physicians should take a personalized approach to the choice of delivery devices. As nebulizer therapy is not considered an aerosol-generating procedure it should not be avoided for use when it is indicated. At the same time, it is recommended to strictly follow infection control rules and to use modern and certified nebulizers.

Key words: COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2, nebulizer, nebulizer therapy, aerosol.

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