

## **ACUTE MEDICATION POISONING CAUSING HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS IN CHILDHOOD: A 3-YEAR PROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL SINGLE-CENTER STUDY**

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Drug intoxications represent a global public health problem. To evaluate the prevalence, causes, and outcomes of medication poisonings leading to hospital admission in children over a three-year period in the University Hospital in Olomouc, Czech Republic. All admissions to the Department of Pediatrics of the University Hospital Olomouc, Czech Republic, from January 2010 to December 2012 were prospectively screened. Patients younger than 19 years of age admitted because of acute pharmaceutical drug intoxications were further evaluated. A total of 15,069 children and adolescents were admitted to the Department of Pediatrics in the study period. Of them, 55 were hospitalized for (suspected) acute medication poisoning. The condition was more common in girls than boys (72.7% vs. 27.3%,  $P < 0.01$ ). Toddlers were the largest patient group (36.4%), followed by schoolchildren (27.3%) and adolescents (14.5%). NSAIDs were the most frequently used agents, with ibuprofen being the leading drug (20% of all cases), followed by paracetamol (14.5%). This paper also presents a case report of fatal accidental poisoning by single dose of verapamil and propafenone. The route of intoxication was almost exclusively oral. Solid drug forms were involved in 40 (72.7%) cases. The highest occurrence of accidental drug intoxications was in the age group from one to three years. Attempted suicides were most frequent among adolescents, mainly girls. The data confirm the importance of studies of intoxications in young population. Acknowledgment. Study was supported by an MSMT OPVV project „Toxicology“ (CZ.02.2.69/0.0/0.0/16).