



POSTER PRESENTATION

Open Access

Attitudes and practices of primary care physicians in Ankara about food allergy and anaphylaxis

Aysegul Akan^{1*}, Ersoy Civelek¹, Mustafa Erkocoglu¹, Celal Ozcan¹, Dilek Azkur¹, Muge Toyran¹, Yasemin Gokce², Tali Ozdemir², Sedat Guler², Can Naci Kocabas¹

From Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Meeting 2011
Venice, Italy. 17-19 February 2011

Background

Because of the rise in the frequency, food allergies (FA) and consequently anaphylaxis (A) are becoming public health problems. The consciousness about prevention, diagnosis and therapy has to be improved, especially among primary care physicians (PCP).

Methods

The survey including questions and case examples about FA and was given to PCP during the 2 meetings held by Local Health Managers' Office of Ankara.

Results

Median of the age of the participants and duration of their practice were 42.4±6.5 and 17.0±6.4 years. The 72.4% of participants pointed out that lower than 5% of their pediatric patients had food allergy. The 36.6% of the participants thought that FA could be completely cured with therapy, the 36.9% stated that they didn't refer the patients suspected for FA. The 73.4% defined asthma as a significant risk factor of A for the patient with FA. Egg white was the most common food allergen (85.8%) defined by PCP and the second common food allergen was cow's milk (67.5%). The 4.3% of the participants had ever given a prescription of epinephrine otinjector, 83% of them defined they know poorly about the use of epinephrine otinjector. The 50% of PCP defined epinephrine as the first drug in a case with anaphylaxis, 60% of this group pointed out to give subcutaneously. Fifty two percent of PCP indicated that the education for FA and A in medical school was deficient.

Conclusions

PCP have some information about FA, but they have to be educated about practical applications about the diagnosis and management of FA and A. Otherwise we could neither know the real extent and burden of FA and A nor form right practice.

Author details

¹Ankara Hematology Oncology Children's Training and Research Hospital, Pediatric Allergy, Ankara, Turkey. ²Local Health Managers' Office of Ankara, Ankara, Turkey.

Published: 12 August 2011

doi:10.1186/2045-7022-1-S1-P42

Cite this article as: Akan et al.: Attitudes and practices of primary care physicians in Ankara about food allergy and anaphylaxis. *Clinical and Translational Allergy* 2011 **1**(Suppl 1):P42.

Submit your next manuscript to BioMed Central
and take full advantage of:

- Convenient online submission
- Thorough peer review
- No space constraints or color figure charges
- Immediate publication on acceptance
- Inclusion in PubMed, CAS, Scopus and Google Scholar
- Research which is freely available for redistribution

Submit your manuscript at
www.biomedcentral.com/submit



¹Ankara Hematology Oncology Children's Training and Research Hospital, Pediatric Allergy, Ankara, Turkey
Full list of author information is available at the end of the article