



POSTER PRESENTATION

Open Access

Feeding of cows' milk formula at maternity hospital and the development of cows' milk allergy

Stefano Mazzoleni

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

Background

Early feeding with cows' milk (CM) formula may cause CM allergy (CMA). Contribution of CM formula feeding at maternity hospital in the development of CMA was studied.

Methods

27 children with CMA were retrospectively examined in this study: 12 boys and 15 girls, the median age at the beginning of symptoms was 5 months (range 18 days - 6 years). In 18 children symptoms began quickly after ingesting CM (urticaria and angioedema 8 cases, anaphylaxis 7, skin rash 2, vomit 1 case); in 9 children symptoms began several hours after. All children performed skin prick test and food challenge test.

Results

In 12 out of 27 patients (44%) symptoms of CMA appeared after ingestion of the "first" meal of CM formula or dairy products at home. Children with rapid reaction had symptoms after the "first" meal of CM in 66% of cases. A retrospective examination of neonatal charts revealed that nine out of 12 children who reacted to the "first" meal of CM at home had received CM formula at the hospital and were fully breastfed after discharge. Only two out of 12 of these children was born to atopic parents.

Conclusions

In our experience feeding of CM formula at the maternity hospital is involved in about one-third of CM allergy. Avoidance of bottles during the establishment of breastfeeding may give a relevant contribution to the

prevention of CMA in children. This measure should be applied to all neonates from atopic and non-atopic parents.

Published: 12 August 2011

doi:10.1186/2045-7022-1-S1-P102

Cite this article as: Mazzoleni: Feeding of cows' milk formula at maternity hospital and the development of cows' milk allergy. *Clinical and Translational Allergy* 2011 **1**(Suppl 1):P102.

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



Aulss 16 Regione Veneto, Padova, Italy



© 2011 Mazzoleni; licensee BioMed Central Ltd. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.