PEDIATRIC BURN INFECTIONS AND ANTIBIOTICS - A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY (P127)

*Karaca T.1, Yasti A. C.1, *Canbolant E.2,1, Sözen I.2,1

1 Ankara Numune Training and Research Hospital, General Surgery, Ankara, Turkey
2 Iskenderun State Hospital, Hatay, Turkey

Introduction: The use of antibiotics in burn patients aims topical treatment, systemic prophylaxis or systemic treatment of the burn wounds. In the present study we aimed to compare the demographic characteristics of pediatric burn patients with systemic antibiotic use rate and the effect of antibiotic usage on results.

Material and Methods: All burn patients under the age of sixteen patients who were hospitalised between April 1st 2001-December 31st 2012 were enrolled to the study. Patient demographics, cause of burns, total burned body surface area, length of hospitalisation, mortality, the use of systemic antibiotic, the need of surgery, results of blood, wound and urinary cultures were recorded for each patient.

Prophylactic antibiotics are not started as a rule in our burns unit. Systemic antibiotic use was indicated in patients who had systemic symptoms and findings of infection on physical examination or blood parameters (fever, leukocytosis, increased c reactive protein levels, radiologic findings in chest x-ray).

Results: A total of 1268 patients were enrolled to the study. Mean age was 4,41 ± 3,89 years. Boys were affected more than girls (738/1268, 58.2%). Mean total burned body surface area was 12,2 % ±10,8%, mean hospitalisation time was 13,9±16,0 days. The most common cause of burn was hot liquid (81,7%). Systemic antibiotic use was necessary in 255 of 1268 patients (20,1%). Mortality rate was reported to be 29/1268 (2,3%). The most common cause of death was multi organ dysfunction due to sepsis.

Discussion: The treatment algorithm of burn patients in our clinic does not recommend prophylactic antibiotic use in patients who do not have systemic or local findings of infection. In the present study we reviewed our results in pediatric burn patients and we suggest that the results are acceptable. We also suggest that avoiding prophylactic antibiotic use in every burn patient will help prevention of drug resistance which is an important challenge in burn patients.