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ABSTRACT BOOK

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Invited Speaker Presentations

Topic: AS17 Viral Infections: / AS17i Other virus infections

ACTIVE PERSISTENCE OF THE EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS WORSE PROGNOSIS ESOPHAGITIS IN SCHOOL CHILDREN

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Background: Cases of severe variants of erosive and ulcerative esophagitis in older children and adolescents have become more frequent. There are publications on the effect of Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) on the development of severe and complicated esophagitis and an increased risk of developing adenocarcinoma of the esophagus with active persistence of EBV, which has a tropism for gastrointestinal epithelial cells.

Aims: To study the effect of active persistence of EBV in school-age children with esophagitis and complicated variants of GERD, based on the results of a comprehensive study.

Methods: 388 children aged 6-18 years with esophagitis were examined. The diagnosis was verified endoscopically and morphologically. Hp was determined histologically, the activity of EBV - by PCR of blood serum. The results were statistically processed.

Results: The overall infection with Hp was 56%. Patients were divided into 2 groups : group 1 - 295 (76%) patients with catarrhal esophagitis, group 2 - 93 (24%) patients with erosive esophagitis. EBV in catarrhal esophagitis was detected in 12%, and in erosive esophagitis in 48% of patients ($p < 0.01$). 24.5% of patients with erosive esophagitis had complications in the form of torpid slit-like erosions, ulcers and polyps of the esophagus. When analyzing the infection rate of this category of patients, it turned out that Hp-positive variants of complicated esophagitis accounted for only 28%, while active EBV infection was detected in 92% of patients ($p < 0.01$).

Conclusions: EBV is significantly more often detected in school-age children with erosive and complicated esophagitis. Active long-term persistence of EBV worsens the prognosis of esophagitis.