

FATAL INTOXICATION OF AN INFANT CAUSED BY ANTIEPILEPTIC DRUGS - CASE REPORT

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Antiepileptic drug poisoning in children can manifest in multiorgan dysfunctions of varying degrees, ranging from discretely expressed symptoms to severe and life-threatening complications. (1, 2) This paper presents the fatal case of a male infant aged three and a half months, whose autopsy was performed on suspicion of medical drug poisoning. After three months of hospitalization due to intrapartum asphyxia, the infant was discharged for home treatment under the diagnosis "Epilepsy idiopathica (focalis) (partialis) et syndromata epileptica cum impetu simplici partiali." Therapy with Levetiracetam, Valproic acid, and Phenobarbitone was prescribed. Three days after the discharge from the hospital, the infant was hospitalized again due to drowsiness and dyspnea, which deepened within 24 hours to coma, respiratory arrest, and death. During the hospital treatment, a toxicologic-chemical analysis of blood showed Levetiracetam's presence in the concentration of 23.67 mg/L and Phenobarbitone at 78 mg/L. An autopsy determined a non-specific finding on the internal organs, with severe edema of the brain and lungs. Toxicological-chemical analysis of cadaveric tissue samples revealed the presence of Levetiracetam at a concentration of 21.95 mg/L and Phenobarbitone at a concentration of 65 mg/L. It was concluded that the death was violent and occurred due to antiepileptic drug poisoning. Investigative actions in the criminal procedure established that the mother ordained advised therapy to the child in doses ten times higher than the prescribed ones. At the same time, whether the poisoning occurred negligently or intentionally remained unknown.

References

1. Ferranti S, Grande E, Gaggiano C, Grosso S. Antiepileptic drugs: Role in paediatric poisoning. *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*. 2018;54(5):475-9.
2. Gray LA. Anticonvulsant toxicity. *Medicine*. 2020;48(3):192-3.

SMRTO TROVANJE ODOJČETA ANTIEPILEPTICIMA - PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

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Trovanje antiepilepticima kod dece može biti manifestovano multiorganskim disfunkcijama različitog stepena, u rasponu od diskretno izraženih simptoma do teških i po život opasnih komplikacija (1, 2). U radu je prezentovan smrtni slučaj muškog odojčeta starog 3 i po meseca, čija je obdukcija izvršena zbog sumnje na medikamentozno trovanje. Nakon tromesečne hospitalizacije zbog intraportalne asfiksije, odojče je otpušteno na kućno lečenje pod dijagnozom "*Epilepsia idiopathica (focalis) (partialis) et syndromata epileptica cum impetu simplici partiali*". Propisana je terapija lekovima Levetiracetamom, Valproinskom kiselinom i Fenobarbitonom. Tri dana po otpustu iz bolnice, odojče je ponovo hospitalizovano zbog pospanosti i dispneje, koje su se unutar 24 sata produbile do kome, respiratornog aresta i smrtnog ishoda. Tokom lečenja je izvršena toksikološko-hemijska analiza krvi koja je pokazala prisustvo Levetiracetama u koncentraciji od 23,67 mg/L i Fenobarbitona od 78 mg/L. Obdukcijom je utvrđen nespecifičan nalaz na unutrašnjim organima, uz jakostepen edem mozga i pluća. Toksikološko-hemijskom analizom uzoraka tkiva lešnog materijala utvrđeno je prisustvo Levetiracetama u koncentraciji od 21,95 mg/L i Fenobarbitona od 65 mg/L. Zaključeno je da je smrt nasilna i da je nastupila usled trovanja antiepilepticima. Istražnim radnjama u krivičnom postupku je utvrđeno da je majka detetu ordinirala propisanu terapiju u dozama 10 puta većim od propisanih. S druge strane, da li je do trovanja došlo nehatno ili umišljajno ostala je nepoznanica.

Literatura

1. Ferranti S, Grande E, Gaggiano C, Grosso S. Antiepileptic drugs: Role in paediatric poisoning. *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*. 2018;54(5):475-9.
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