

SEPTIC SHOCK- A CAUSE OF ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME**O. Zafirovski**, M.Caparoska, S.Galbova, L.Petrusevska, K.Boskovska, N.Cadikovska*Institute for Respiratory Diseases in Children, Skopje, Macedonia*

The Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at the Institute for Respiratory Diseases in Children – Skopje, Macedonia, is a Department for treating different age groups of children with respiratory disorders (neonates/ adolescents). Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) is one of more urgent conditions with significant rate of frequency. We have our own particular diagnostic algorithm in relation of diagnosis of this condition. The most frequent causes for ARDS are: foreign body in airways, Croup Syndrome, severe form of bronchiolitis, asthma attack, congenital malformations, sepsis, etc. The aim of this study is to provide the incidence of septic shock condition, relatively multiorganic dysfunction, as a cause of ARDS. In the period of five years (1997-2001) we elaborated a group of 245 children with clinic manifestations of ARDS that were treated in our PICU. In all cases we used particular diagnostic algorithm of investigations (acidobase status, CRP, blood counts, chemoculture, neutrophil elastasis...). In the initial phase of investigation, CRP and neutrophil elastasis were with great significance. Sepsis was confirmed in 118 (48.16%) children with positive results of chemoculture. In 82 (69.49%) patients of them, we had demonstrated Staphylococcus coagulasa negative (MRSA). Initially, all of the patients with positive results of chemoculture were treated with antibiotics (group of Cephalosporins) and after that in relation with antibiogramme. Only in 3 children (3.6%) exitus letalis was occurred. The other patients were with good evolution of their condition. Bed socio-economic situation and this transition period in our country are leading reasons for appearance of sepsis as still significantly frequent cause of ARDS.