



FACTORS AFFECTING PROLONGED HOSPITALIZATION IN CHILDREN 6 MONTHS TO 5 YEARS WITH SEVERE COMMUNITY ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA

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BACKGROUND

Pneumonia is a disease of the lower respiratory tract that remains as one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality among children under five years of age worldwide. In resource-poor countries like the Philippines, the economic burden of this disease cannot be overemphasized.

OBJECTIVES

This research study aims to determine the factors affecting prolonged hospitalization in children six months to five years diagnosed with Community Acquired Pneumonia Severe.

METHODS

The study was a retrospective chart review of patients aged six months to five years diagnosed with Severe Community Acquired Pneumonia and admitted at the regular ward of the Philippine Children's Medical Center over a 24-month period from the month of January 2018 to December 2019. Variables such as the age and gender of the child, immunization status and socio-economic status as well as presence of hypoxemia, respiratory rate on admission, nutritional status and number of antibiotics were correlated with the duration of hospital stay.

RESULTS

Based on the findings presented, variables such as younger age, low socioeconomic status and greater number of antibiotics used were found to be significantly associated with prolonged duration of hospital stay after controlling for other variables.

CONCLUSION

Findings in this study can help pediatricians to identify children with severe pneumonia who will likely need to be admitted for a prolonged period of time.