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Title: Unrecognized pediatric foreign body aspiration (FBA) with emphasis on the errors in the diagnosis in out-hospital health services

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Body: Introduction: Aim of study was to evaluate the yield of epidemiological characteristics, clinical symptoms and most common errors in the diagnostic procedures in out-hospital health services in the diagnosis of FBA. Material and methods: A retrospective analysis of FB in 72 patients, with emphasis on 32 cases with unrecognized aspiration, over a period of 10 years was conducted. Rigid bronchoscopy was done in all patients. Results: The highest incidence of aspiration was from the age of 1 to 3 years (68.06%); 63.89% of them were male. Analysis of years distribution revealed that the highest incidence of aspiration was in 2006. and 2012. year, 15.28%. Most of the patients (55.56%) requested medical attention within the first 48 hours of aspiration while 44.44% of the cases were not recognized after this period. In 68.75% of cases were treated before hospitalization longer than 5 days, mostly by pediatricians (71.88%). Accident of aspiration was confirmed immediately or later in 62, 50% childrens who were, despite this data, treated by primary caregivers. Main symptoms were the following: prolonged cough (100%), wheezing (25%), and non-resolving pneumonia with temperature (75%). None of the patients with undiscovered aspiration had normal breath sound; the predominant auscultatory finding was decreased breath sound and/or wheezing, in 62.50% childrens. Conclusion: It is very important that the outpatient physician have the time to take detailed information on medical history and pay attention in next cases: if previously healthy child have persistent or recurrent respiratory symptoms and signs or unsatisfactory therapeutic response.