

European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2012

Abstract Number: 20
Publication Number: P2535

Abstract Group: 10.1. Respiratory Infections

Keyword 1: Infections **Keyword 2:** Viruses **Keyword 3:** Cough

Title: Limited effect of clarithromycin in non-elderly, non-severe patients with influenza

Dr. Hiroshi 1009 Ishii hishii@oita-u.ac.jp MD ¹, Dr. Kosaku 1010 Komiya komiyakh1@oita-u.ac.jp MD ¹, Dr. Hisako 1011 Kushima hkushi@oita-u.ac.jp MD ¹, Dr. Hiroaki 1012 Oka m10d9007@oita-u.ac.jp MD ¹, Prof. Hiroshi 1013 Mukae hmukae@med.uoeh-u.ac.jp MD ² and Prof. Jun-ichi 1014 Kadota kadota@oita-u.ac.jp MD ¹. ¹ Internal Medicine 2, Oita University Faculty of Medicine, Yufu, Oita, Japan, 879-5593 and ² Respiratory Medicine, University of Occupational and Environmental Health, Kitakyushu, Fukuoka, Japan, 807-8555 .

Body: Background: Macrolides, including clarithromycin, are molecules with antibacterial activity that also have anti-inflammatory properties. They have been reported to have inhibitory effects on influenza virus infection. Objective: To determine the effect of concurrent therapy of clarithromycin and neuraminidase inhibitors for influenza on an outpatient clinic basis. Method: This was an open-label study involving several hospitals in Japan. The clinical episodes of 141 non-immunosuppressed outpatients with seasonal influenza A (2010-2011), including 67 patients treated with a neuraminidase inhibitor alone and 74 treated with the combination therapy (mean age: 30 and 31 years, respectively), were analyzed. Result: There was no additional efficacy when clarithromycin was used in combination with the neuraminidase inhibitor with regard to the duration of fever, cough, nasal secretions, or general malaise. However, the duration of cough in patients without cough at the onset was significantly shortened by the combined treatment compared to the treatment with the anti-influenza drug alone. Conclusion: Although the effect of clarithromycin in non-elderly patients with seasonal influenza A was limited, further studies might be needed to determine the additional or preventive effect of clarithromycin during influenza virus infection for elderly subjects or patients complicated with serious underlying diseases.