Safety and tolerability of treatments for allergic rhinitis in children

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RESUMEN

Allergic rhinitis is a common condition in adults and children and can have a large impact on patients' health and quality of life. The aim of current allergic rhinitis therapies is to treat the subjective symptoms and to improve objective measures of the disease. Of the available treatment options for paediatric allergic rhinitis, the newer oral antihistamines and intranasal corticosteroids are first-line treatments. First-generation antihistamines are associated with unwanted adverse effects such as cardiotoxicity, sedation and impairment of psychomotor function. Despite results from studies using first-generation antihistamines demonstrating impairment of cognitive and academic function in children, many of these agents are still commonly given to patients. The newer antihistamines, developed with the aim of being more specific for the histamine H1 receptor and of overcoming these adverse effects, are the medication of choice in patients with mild intermittent allergic rhinitis.

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