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PAEDIATRIC MORTALITY IN CATANZARO (ITALY) FROM 1985 TO 2008

M. Baserga¹, M. Paonessa¹, A. Mattace²,
E. Anastasio¹, E. De Marco¹, P. Rizzi³

¹Pediatrics, University 'Magna Graecia' of Catanzaro, Cancer Registry of the City of Catanzaro, ²Cancer Registry of the City of Catanzaro, ³Institute of Legal Medicine, ASP of Catanzaro, Catanzaro, Italy

Aims: Qualitative and quantitative evaluation of all-cause mortality in pediatric age (0-19 years) in Catanzaro from 1985 to 2008.

Methods: We evaluated all-cause mortality using the "Cancer Registry of the City of Catanzaro". The data were obtained from the ISTAT death cards provided by the Institute of Forensic Medicine, ASP of Catanzaro. The residents of Catanzaro were 1,148,949M; 1,213,267F. Total deaths were 0- ≥85 yrs of age: 7,314M ;6,606F. The statistic variable used has been Crude Rate (CR) referred to 100,000 inhabitants.

Results: In pediatric age, total deaths were:

- 0-19 yrs of age: 151M (CR 31.57); 113F (CR 20.88)
- 1st perinatal: 69M (CR 13.48); 56F (CR 9.98)
- 2th malformations: 14M (CR 3); 16F (CR 3.31)
- 3rd road accidents: 26M (CR 4.93); 4F (CR 0.69)
- 4rd nerv. sys. dis.: 10M (CR 1.98); 10F (CR 2.14)
- 5th cancer: 12M (CR 2.49); 5F (CR 1.06)

Conclusion: In concordance with national data, mortality in pediatric age in Catanzaro has seen a sharp decline over the years, excepted for perinatal diseases: CR 6,79 (1985-89) vs 3,34 (2000-04) vs 3,43 (2005-08). This decrease and stabilization may be explained with the concomitance of new reanimating techniques for children under twenty-fifth week of life and the increase of the transport "in uterus" to the Catanzaro Dep. of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

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ASSESSMENT OF SPEECH DEVELOPMENT ACCORDING TO PRESCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN'S NUTRITIONAL PROFILE

J.C.P. Mendes, M.M. Pandolfi, M.R. Oliveira,
Y. Juliano, V. Carabetta-Junior, P. Colombo

Pós Graduação em Saúde Materno Infantil, Universidade de Santo Amaro, São Paulo, Brazil

Objective: To assess speech development correlating it to social and nutritional data.

Method: Cross study with 6-month to 6-year old 126 children from the south region of the city of São Paulo. The Denver II Developmental Screening Test was applied to detect speech risk and results were compared to the following variables: age, gender, mother's educational level, child's nutritional status, number and order of children's birth and anemia. The Chi-Square Test or the Fisher Exact Test with 5% significance level was also used to analyze these results.

Result: According to the Denver II test results, from the 126 participant children, 18.3% presented risk for speech and 9.5% presented with anemia. There was no statistical difference between age ($p=0.064$), nutritional status ($p=0.304$), mother's educational level ($p=0.9469$) and gender ($p=0.1291$) when comparing risk and non risk children to the studied variables. However, a statistical difference was noted in number of children ($p=0.023$), birth order ($p=0.022$) and anemia ($p=0.021$).

Conclusion: The major risk for speech acquisition and development was concentrated in the anemia group, in the oldest sons and in mothers having given birth to less than five children. Similar studies are key to detect possible changes in the speech development and, as a consequence, in the child's learning process and in his/her future social development.

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OBESITY AND OVERWEIGHT IN A LOW-INCOME SCHOOL POPULATION OF SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL

M.R. de Oliveira, F. Sandrini, J.E. Armond,
M.M. Pandolfi, A.C.R. Zollner, P. Colombo

Health Public, Universidade de Santo Amaro, São Paulo, Brazil

Objective: To examine in a sample of students from a region of low socioeconomic status, the obesity and overweight