

عنوان مقاله:

Assessment of the Blood Lead Level in Children with Unexplained Failure to Thrive (FTT) admitted to Pediatrics
Emergency Ward of Ghaem Hospital, Mashhad, Iran

محل انتشار:

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خلاصه مقاله:

Background Lead is a strong and stable toxin, harmful especially to children, pregnant women, and the elderly. Nearly 27% of children aged under 5 years suffer from failure to thrive (FTT). Due to the probable harmful effects of lead poisoning on children's growth, in this study we aimed to assess the blood lead level in children with unexplained failure to thrive. Methods This analytic cross-sectional study was performed on 200 children under 2 years of age who were referred to Ghaem hospital, a referral hospital in Mashhad city-Iran. The participants were divided into two equal groups, one with unexplained FTT (group A), and children with normal weight (group B). Baseline characteristics were obtained by a research-made questionnaire. Blood samples were taken by the hospital nurses who were blind to the study groups. Blood lead level was measured by atomic absorption spectrophotometric method (Perkin Elmer 3030). Results The mean \pm standard deviation (SD) of blood lead level in FTT group and control group were 7.3 ± 3.32 $\mu\text{g/dL}$ and 6.37 ± 5.93 $\mu\text{g/dL}$, respectively. Blood lead level was significantly higher in FTT group than control group ($P=0.001$). Baseline Characteristics (such as gender, parental educational level, gestational age, and socio-economic status of the family) were not significantly different between the two groups ($P > 0.05$). Conclusion The results of our study revealed that blood lead level was higher in children with FTT. So Lead poisoning may be a potential cause of unexplained FTT. So, measuring blood lead level can be useful in diagnostic workup of patients with FTT.

کلمات کلیدی:

Blood, Children, Failure to Thrive, Lead

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