primary studies - published RCT

Long term effects of azithromycin in patients with cystic fibrosis: A double blind, placebo controlled trial.

Code: PM16809416 **Year:** 2006 **Date:** 2006 **Author:** Clement A

Study design (if review, criteria of inclusion for studies)

Randomised, multicentre, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial.

Participants

82 young people with CF (6-21 years, mean age 11.0 years, SD 3.3 years), 40 in azithromycin group, 42 in placebo group. FEV1 >40% predicted. 19 patients were infected with Pseudomonas aeruginosa.

Interventions

Azithromycin 250 mg tablet 3 times per week (>40 kg, 500 mg) versus placebo.

Outcome measures

Relative change in FEV1 and FVC % predicted, number of pulmonary exacerbations, additional antibiotic treatment (oral and IV), lung microbiology and adverse events.

Main results

The relative change in FEV1 at month 12 did not differ significantly between the two groups. The number of pulmonary exacerbations (count ratio 0.50 (95% CI 0.32 to 0.79), p

Authors' conclusions

Long term use of low dose azithromycin in young patients with cystic fibrosis has a beneficial effect on lung disease expression, even before infection with Pseudomonas aeruginosa.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/thx.2005.057950

See also

Thorax. 2006 Oct;61(10):895-902. Epub 2006 Jun 29.

Keywords

Adolescent; Adult; Anti-Bacterial Agents; Azithromycin; Bacterial Infections; Child; Infection; pharmacological_intervention; placebo; Pseudomonas aeruginosa; Pseudomonas; Respiratory Tract Diseases; Respiratory Tract Infections; Tablets; Macrolides; Anti-Inflammatory Agents; Anti-Inflammatory Agents - excl Steroids;