



Letter to the Editor

Editöre Mektup

Management of bacterial rhinosinusitis by primary health care physicians

Bakteriyel rinosinitizin birinci basamak hekimleri tarafından tedavisi

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Sir, the recent report on the study to evaluate criteria for acute bacterial rhinosinusitis (ABRS) among primary health care physicians is very interesting.^[1] Ecevit et al.^[1] concluded that "General Practitioners and Family Physicians involved in conducting the basic health services did not assimilate criteria for diagnosis and treatment of ABRS." Apart from the basic problem of this work, few subjects and low response rate, there are also other issues to be discussed. Another previous report also indicated an interesting fact that among the practitioners who correctly use the criteria for diagnosis of ABRS, a considerable number of them failed to correctly prescribed antibiotic for therapeutic purpose.^[2] The interesting question is why the general practitioners did not get competency in management case of ABRS. Training at post graduation period as suggested by Ecevit et al.^[1] might not be the correct solution to the problem. Since ABRS can be a common problem in general practice, inclusion of the knowledge on ABRS management into the undergraduate curriculum is recommended.

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Author's response

I would like to thank the authors who sent mails to the editor on behalf of all authors. The primary objective of the article is to examine the patterns of up-to-date information gathering by the physicians especially after graduation and of the usage of this information in the daily practice. While there are difficulties in the generalization of the result obtained from this study, it is pleasing to see that it triggered some questions as you also discussed. Nevertheless, the experience of the physicians participating in this study ranged between 8 and 31 years. Therefore, the study was not expected to investigate the information provided during the medical education. The only aim was to demonstrate the current approaches in a specific topic belonging to the period when the survey was conducted. Of course, the level of efficiency in teaching the diseases that are very commonly seen in the population and characterized as simple with a wrong approach is a separate study topic. Examining the effective models used in pre- and post-graduate medical education and the results of this education based on the local data appear to be an inescapable need.

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