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Maria Amparo Lopez Ruiz

Cardenal Herrera University, Spain

Single oral ibuprofen overdose as cause of gastric hemorrhagic ulcer: A medication error in children

It has been established for a long time that non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) can produce gastrointestinal hemorrhagic ulcers when administered in high doses over a continuous period of time as in management of chronic pain in the elderly, but it is not clear what effect NSAIDs have on pediatric gastric bleeding, since the use is usually for a short period of time. The use of NSAIDs among febrile pediatric patients has become a common treatment even without medical prescription, and is increasingly used alongside paracetamol (acetaminophen). A four-year-old girl was admitted to our hospital with a febrile status and hematemesis that started an hour earlier. On admission, she presented with tachycardia and fever, with normal blood pressure and a sore throat that started the previous day. The girl had received, several hours prior to admission, a single oral dose of ibuprofen that represented an increment of 50% over the indicated dosage for her weight. She had received no further treatment. The clinical history was of no relevance and the throat exploration showed some erythema and inflammation but not pus. The anamnesis revealed that a high ibuprofen dose had been administered by mistake. The digestive endoscopy found a gastrointestinal hemorrhagic ulcer that was still bleeding. After suppressing the drug, conducting rehydration therapy, and administering intravenous ranitidine, progression was favourable and the girl was discharged on the fourth day of admission. A single overdose, due to the similarity of the packaging of different concentration of the same active principle ingredient available in our country (Spain) can produce gastric bleeding. Combined treatment with NSAIDs and acetaminophen should also be reviewed.

**Fig:** Different percentage of quantities of the brands of ibuprofen on sell in Spain.

Recent Publications

1. López-Ruiz MA, Bendala-Tufanisco E, Muedra V, Moreno L. Single Oral Ibuprofen Overdose as Cause of Gastric Hemorrhagic Ulcer: A Medication Error in Children. *Med Sci Case Rep*, 2016; 3: 86-90.
2. López-Ruiz MA, Bendala-Tufanisco E, Muedra V, Moreno L. Neuroleptic-Induced Oral-Facial Tardive Dyskinesia in a Prepubertal Boy with an Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. *Pediatrics & Therapeutics* 2015; 5 (3):47-248.
3. López-Ruiz MA, López-Peña R, Rojas-Otero LI, Moreno-Royo L. Self-medication between patients who come to a paediatric accident and emergencies unit. *Aten Farm* 2012; 14 (6):441-445.

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Biography

Maria Amparo Lopez Ruiz has completed his PhD from Valencia University and postdoctoral studies from CEU Cardenal Herrera Health Sciences Faculty. She obtained her doctorate in Medicine with the doctoral thesis on "Analysis of the use of medication in the paediatric population that visit accident and emergency department" with summa cum laude. She has achieved the qualification of "University Expert in Neonatology" from the Catholic University in Valencia and "master's degree in Neonatology (from de SENEo -Neonatology Spanish Society-)". She is medicine degree coordinator in CEU Cardenal Herrera University since 2015. She is the director of the "Master's degree in Neonatal Intensive care and Neonatal Nursing". She has attended to International Congresses of Pediatrics as a keynote speaker and she has been part of the Organizing Committee member for the 12th International Conference on pediatric pathology and Laboratory Medicine, and she has published in reputed international journals.

maria.lopez5@uchceu.es

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