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Title: The prevention of virus-induced exacerbation of bronchial asthma in children

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Body: Background: The viral infection is the most common trigger of bronchial asthma. The role of antiviral therapy in prevention of virus-induced bronchial asthma exacerbations in children is still unknown. Aim: To evaluate the efficacy and safety of ultralow doses of antibodies to interferon- γ (ULD AB IFN- γ) - IFN-inducer («Anaferon») in treatment of patients with virus-induced phenotypes of bronchial asthma. Methods: A comparative, randomized, double-blind placebo-controlled trial of ULD AB IFN- γ (anaferon for children) efficacy in prevention of acute respiratory viral infections (ARVI) and bronchial asthma exacerbations in a 100 children of 1-5 years with virus-induced phenotype of mild and moderate bronchial asthma. 52 patients of the treatment group obtained ULD AB IFN- γ (anaferon) for children in preventive regimen (1 pill 1 time per day for 3 months) and 48 patients of the comparison group took placebo in the same way. Results: During 3-months follow-up period the mean number of acute respiratory viral infections in treatment group was $0,6 \pm 0,14$ and duration was $4,4 \pm 0,4$ days; in comparison group children suffered from $1,32 \pm 0,18$ ARVI episodes with mean duration $8,9 \pm 0,9$ days. The percent of children with exacerbation of bronchial asthma induced by ARVI was 11,5% and 27% of children in treatment and comparison groups respectively. Side effects were not registered during the trial. Conclusions: The preventive administration of ULD AB IFN- γ (anaferon) affords to decrease the number of virus-induced bronchial asthma exacerbations, episodes and duration of acute respiratory viral infection. This fact considerably improve the quality of patients' life and decrease economic costs for exacerbation treatment.