

Respiratory infections

Participation of pathogens caused upper respiratory tract infections in outpatients

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Objectives The aim of the present study was to determine the results of typical and atypical bacteria microbiological tests in patients with symptoms of chronic cough. **Material and Methods** Studied group were 230 outpatients aged from 1 to 83 years (112 female, 72 male and 46 children). Physical examinations didn't indicate lower respiratory tract infections. Material for research were pharyngeal swabs. Four hundred and sixty throat swabs were examined for Chlamydia pneumoniae antigen (n=230) and for typical pathogens (n=230). Chlamydia pneumoniae antigen was detected using indirect immunofluorescence test. For typical bacteria detection classical microbiological culture was used.

Results Chl. pneumoniae antigen was found in 44/230 (19,1%) patients with chronic cough (in 23 (20,5%) women, in 13 (18,1%) men, and 8 (17,4%) children). Positive culture for typical pathogens was observed in 65 (28,3%) patients (in 37 (33,0%) women, in 14 (19,4%) men and in 14 (30,4%) children). Simultaneous occurrence of Chlamydia pneumoniae and typical pathogens (Staphylococcus aureus, Streptococcus pyogenes, Moraxella catarrhalis and Haemophilus influenzae) was observed in 11 (4,8%) patients.

Conclusions The results show that in patients with chronic cough Chlamydia pneumoniae was detected rarely than typical pathogens such as Staphylococcus aureus, Streptococcus pyogenes or Moraxella catarrhalis. Research for atypical bacteria in patients with chronic cough are needed for conducting effective and sufficiently long therapy.

Keywords Atypical bacteria – Co-infection – Detection – Throat swabs – Culture