

# Effects of nebulized fenoterol, associated with ipratropium or steroids, on the heart rate of infants under one year of age with acute wheezing

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The main objective of this study was to evaluate the effect of fenoterol alone or associated with ipratropium bromide or steroid on the heart rate in young children. Ninety-four infants less than 1 year of age were randomly allocated to receive nebulized fenoterol alone, fenoterol plus ipratropium bromide, fenoterol plus corticosteroids, or normal saline solution. An increase in heart rate was observed in all four groups. The increases were statistically significant ( $P < 0.001$ ) in all three treatment groups, and no difference between them was observed ( $F = 0.65$ , NS). However, the heart rate remained within clinically acceptable limits. We conclude that nebulized fenoterol alone or combined with ipratropium or steroids can be safely used in the treatment of wheezy infants. *Pediatr Pulmonol* 1987; 3:83-85. Copyright © 1987 Wiley-Liss, Inc., A Wiley Company