

Rheumatic and connective tissue diseases in children at Santiago, Chile

Enfermedades reumáticas y del tejido conectivo en niños de Santiago, Chile

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A collaborative epidemiological study on pediatric rheumatic and connective tissue diseases that were identified in patients aged 15 years or less [children] along year 1996 was carried with participation of all the corresponding reference centers at metropolitan Santiago, Chile, which covered a children's population of about 57 17 inhabitants. By that year a total of 2807 pediatric rheumatologic consultations were recorded., 778 [17%] were first visits, among which 135 new cases of connective tissue disease were identified, an estimated incidence rate of 8,6 cases per 100 000. The most frequent connective tissue disease was juvenile rheumatoid arthritis whose estimated incidence rate was 5,6 cases per 100 000.