

Many respiratory viruses have temporal association with meningococcal disease

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ALLERGOLOGIA ET IMMUNOPATHOLOGIA

Volumen: 43

Número: 5

Páginas: 487-492

DOI: 10.1016/j.aller.2014.07.005

Fecha de publicación: SEP-OCT 2015

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Resumen

Background: Previous ecological studies have shown a temporal and spatial association between influenza epidemics and meningococcal disease (MNG); however, none have examined more than two respiratory viruses.

Methods: Data were obtained in Chile between 2000 and 2005 on confirmed cases of MNG and all confirmed cases of respiratory viruses (influenza A and B; parainfluenza; adenovirus; and respiratory syncytial virus [RSV]). Both variables were divided by epidemiological weeks, age range, and regions. Models of transference functions were run for rates of MNG.

Results: In this period, 1022 reported cases of MNG and 34,737 cases of respiratory virus were identified (25,137 RSV; 4300 parainfluenza; 2527 influenza-A; 356 influenza-B; and 2417 adenovirus). RSV was the major independent virus temporally associated to MNG (it appears one week before MNG), followed by parainfluenza, influenza-B, adenovirus, and influenza-A.

Conclusions: The rate of MNG in Chile is temporally associated to all of the respiratory viruses studied, but with variability according age range, and regions. (C) 2014 SEICAP. Published by Elsevier Espana, S.L.U. All rights reserved.

Palabras clave

Palabras clave de autor: [Meningococcal](#); [Respiratory viruses](#); [Ecological studies](#)

KeyWords Plus: [INFLUENZA-A](#); [INFECTION](#); [CHILDREN](#); [CELLS](#)

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Editorial

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Categorías / Clasificación

Áreas de investigación: Allergy; Immunology

Categorías de Web of Science: Allergy; Immunology

Información del documento

Tipo de documento: Article

Idioma: English

Número de acceso: [WOS:000361503500012](#)

ID de PubMed: 25456529

ISSN: 0301-0546

eISSN: 1578-1267

Información de la revista

- **Impact Factor:** [Journal Citation Reports®](#)

Otra información

Número IDS: CR7BS

Referencias citadas en la Colección principal de Web of Science: 19

Veces citado en la Colección principal de Web of Science: 0