



SAMPLE ABSTRACT

Management of Esophageal Atresia in Martinique and Guadeloupe

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OBJECTIVE: Esophageal atresia (EA) is a rare congenital malformation. The management of this disease in the French Antilles is recent. The purpose of this study was to describe the management, analyze the main complications and evaluate the quality of the multidisciplinary follow up for EA.

DESIGN AND METHODS: A retrospective and multicentric study was done concerning children with esophageal atresia operated in Martinique and Guadeloupe from 2000 to 2015.

RESULTS: 32 patients were included. 13 children were operated in Guadeloupe and 19 were operated in Martinique of whom 9 came from French Guyana. 85% had type III EA and 50% of the patients presented at least one associated malformation. During the first year of life, 6,3% died. 12,5 % had anastomotic leakage, 40,6 % had anastomotic stricture and 12,5% had recurrent tracheo-esophageal fistula. 25% of the patients required anti reflux surgery for severe gastro-esophageal reflux. 37,5% had a medical evacuation to metropolitan France to treat complications or associated malformation. At the moment of the study, 22% of children were lost of follow up. Multidisciplinary follow up was not systematic.

CONCLUSIONS: Even though the mortality rate is the same compared to national results, complication rates remain higher. Martinique and Guadeloupe still depend on medical evacuation for the management of the follow up of children with EA. Local paediatrician specialties and inter-regional protocols should be developed to improve the management of these patients.