MEETING ABSTRACT
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Rhinitis, sinusitis and ocular disease – 2085. Prevalence of allergic rhinitis in urban school children, Jaipur City, India

Abhishek Saini1*, Mukesh Gupta1, Bhagwan Sahai Sharma2, Munish Kakkar1, Gaurav Chaturvedy1, Mukesh Gupta3

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Background
The present study is conducted to find the prevalence of Allergic Rhinitis (AR) and its associated co-morbidity in school going children in urban area of Jaipur City, Rajasthan.

Methods
A questionnaire based survey was conducted during November-December 2011 in 2300 school children (4-18 yr). Modified ARIA questionnaire translated in Hindi language containing 20 questions was used. Questions 1-4 were AR defining symptoms, question 5 related to classification (intermittent Vs persistent), questions 6 related to allergens and conditions inducing or aggravating symptoms and question 7-20 were related to co morbidities and family history. We screened questionnaires and those who answered yes to any AR defining symptoms were shortlisted. Children having two or more rhinitis symptoms (blocked nose, running nose, sneezing and nasal itching) in association with minimum 2 identifiable triggers were considered to have allergic rhinitis. Detailed history and physical examination was done by team consisting a pediatrician and ENT specialist in cases where diagnosis was in doubt.

Results
Out of 2300 questionnaire forms distributed, 1693 were returned (response rate 73.60%) and 1572 forms were adequately filled (92.85%). Prevalence of AR in different age groups was as follows: 4-8 years 33.87% (167/493), 8-12years 34.87% (143/410) and 12-18 years 32.43 % (217/669) with an overall prevalence 33.52% (527/1572).

Conclusions
A high prevalence of AR and its co morbidities was observed in school children as compared to previous reports from this area.

Author details
1Mahatma Gandhi Medical & Technical University, Sitapura, Jaipur, India.
2SMS Medical College, Jaipur, Jaipur, India. 3Paed, MGH, India.

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