

WORLD CONGRESS ON RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE

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Title: ADHERENCE TO BENZATHINE PENICILLIN G OF ADOLESCENTS WITH RHEUMATIC FEVER AND RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE IN A TERTIARY HOSPITAL

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Background & Aims: Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) is a top cause of morbidity and mortality in pediatric population in general worldwide. It is preventable with a prompt diagnosis and the use of Penicillin prophylaxis. Halting disease progression requires long-term treatment maintenance, patient adherence, and disease education. The objective of the study is to determine the adherence rate to Benzathine Penicillin G of patients with Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease aged 10-19 years old at DLSUMC-PEDIA OPD from February to April 2022.

Methods: The study design is analytic study. All patients with Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease on Benzathine Penicillin G aged 10-19 years old at De La Salle University Medical Center: Out Patient Department and Emergency Room from February to April 2022 were included in the study. Data was collected using a questionnaire. Adherence rate was computed using "Proportion of days covered". Frequencies of demographic characteristics and factors were tabulated and compared.

Results: Adherence rate was 73.3%. There were more female patients, the mean age group was 14-16 years old, and were a mostly high school with low income and with more than 1 year of illness. 60% of those non-adherent have poor knowledge of the disease. Among the barriers to treatment, only the transportation method was statistically significant. 30% of non-adherents reported forgetting their schedule due to personal reasons.

Conclusions: Factors found to be negatively affecting adherence of the said subjects include middle age group, poor knowledge of the disease, pain on injection site, mode of transportation being a public vehicle, and conflict on schedule including forgetfulness. On the other hand, factors that positively affected adherence include those with family and peer support and those with good interaction with healthcare workers.