



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Evaluation of the quality of care of neonates with necrotizing enterocolitis affiliated with Seguro Popular in Mexico

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Abstract

Background: In Mexico there is an important gap of information regarding the quality of care for neonates with necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC). This study aimed at evaluating the quality of care for neonates with NEC affiliated with the program Medical Insurance Century XXI (MIC-XXI), which is a branch of Seguro Popular.

Methods: From December 2011 to March 2012, a cross-sectional study took place in 61 hospitals of the Ministry of Health located in 22 Mexican states. A set of 16 quality indicators based on a literature review served for the evaluation.

Results: We reviewed 262 medical records of neonates with NEC. More than half were male and born by caesarean section; 55.8% were premature, 55.3% had low birth weight and 12.2% died. Regarding the quality of care, 72.5% were breastfed before being diagnosed with NEC. Most cases had abdominal radiography (90%), 75.0% had diagnosis of NEC according to Bell's criteria, but only 30% had reported symptoms that met the criteria for the recorded stage. Suspension of enteral feeding and administration of antibiotics reached 95.8% and 93.9%, respectively. Twenty six neonates underwent surgery, of which 34% had reported radiographic findings.

Conclusion: A wide margin exists to improve the quality of care of neonates with NEC in Mexican Hospitals.

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