Allergic rhinitis and self-reported allergic diseases in doctor-diagnosed attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) pediatric patients

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Allergic rhinitis (AR) and other allergic diseases (AD), e.g., asthma, eczema and food allergy, is common in children. Characteristic symptoms of AR may result in daytime inattention, irritability and hyperactivity, which are also components of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Conflicting data in previous studies exist regarding the relationship between ADHD and AD. The aim of this study was to examine the prevalence and risk of AR and self-reported allergic diseases in doctor-diagnosed ADHD pediatric patients. We conducted a case-control study, where 78 patients and 103 non-ADHD controls were included. Skin prick test to common aeroallergens was done to all participants as a test for the presence of allergic rhinitis disease besides self-report questionnaires were distributed among them where they self-reported the presence of AD. The results shows that the prevalence of any positive skin prick test (SPT) in ADHD patients was higher than in the control group at 25.6% and 13.6%, respectively (p=0.04). Whilst the frequency of self-reported allergic rhinitis was 3.6 times higher in the ADHD patients than among the non-ADHD controls (p=0.004). The prevalence of any self-reported atopic disease was similar among the groups (~49%, p<0.05). The factors that best predict the presence of ADHD disease were positive skin prick test, self-reports of allergic rhinitis and family reports of asthma (p<0.05). This study has provided the first population-based case-control results of the prevalence of allergic rhinitis and self-reported AD among pediatric patients with ADHD in Jordan. According to our findings, the rates of any positive skin prick test to aeroallergens and allergic rhinitis in ADHD children are greater compared to healthy cohort. Therefore, assessment of allergic diseases may be beneficial in children diagnosed with ADHD.

Biography

Eman Albataineh has her expertise in immunologic research projects about molecular immunology, allergic diseases in Jordan as well as the allergy-triggering factors and associated diseases. She has been working in research as well as an Academic Staff in College of Medicine for 6 years in Jordan University of Science and Technology and Mutah University.

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