

Brain Trauma In Children: 17 Years Of Management

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Purpose :

Brain trauma in children is a common cause of emergency admission to our country. The aim was to summarize the management of all head injuries in children.

Material And Method:

This was a retrospective, descriptive monocentric study performed in the neurosurgery department of Yopougon Teaching Hospital Abidjan Cote D'ivoire from January 2000 to December 2017. We included all patients less than 16 years old admitted to the emergency department and all admitted in neurosurgery department for brain trauma with a CT scan and / or an MRI.

Results:

192 patients were admitted in neurosurgery department during the study period. The average age of our patients was 7.8 years with a male predominance (64%). Road accidents were the main causes (68.4%) followed by falls. Brain trauma was mild in 53.8% of cases, moderate in 36.8% and severe in 9.4% of cases. Initial loss of consciousness and headache were the main reasons for admission to the emergency room after the injury with a proportion of 87.6%. The oedemato-haemorrhagic contusion was the most frequent lesion found in our patients with a frequency of 27.1%. The surgery was performed in 36.9% of cases. The overall mortality of patients in the study remains high with a proportion of 13.1%.

Conclusion:

Child's brain trauma had a high mortality rate in our practice. Specialized centers should be developed to optimize their care.