

Levetiracetam use in children and young people: a prospective 1 year clinical audit



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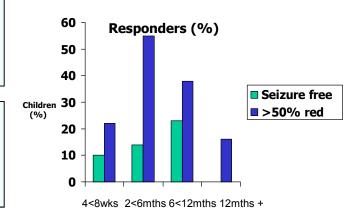
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Purpose

Levetiracetam (LEV) is marketed as add on therapy for children aged over 4 years and has been reported to be effective in childhood epilepsies. We describe our experience of LEV in children with intractable epilepsies in the Trent and Midland areas, UK.

Method

This is an on-going multicentre, open, prospective, observational study. Seizure diaries and a standard proforma were used pre-treatment and at follow up for over 12 months. Efficacy data were analysed on an "intention-to-treat" basis. Simple descriptive statistics have been used preliminarily.



Results

Number recruited to date	46		
Number with follow-up data	40		
Male : Female	23 : 23		
Age range [mean]	13 months – 17 years 2 months [9 years 6 months]		
Max dose range [mean]	9 – 65 [32] mg/kg/day		
Serious adverse events	0		
Patient exposure	10.2 person years		

visit	0<4 weeks	4<8 weeks	2<6 months	6<12 months	12 months +
Withdrawn	2/40	4/40	10/34	10/21	10/12
Not seen	38/40	22/40	1/34	1/21	0/12
Worse but not withdrawn		0/40	2/34	0/21	0/12
No significant change		5/40	2/34	2/21	0/12
>50% improvement inc. seizure free		9/40	19/34	8/21	2/12
Seizure free		4/40	5/34	5/21	0/12

Conclusion

Levetiracetam is well tolerated in this heterogeneous unselected population. Preliminary data suggests worthwhile benefits in children aged 1-17 years. Completed follow-up and Quality of Life data will follow in 2008.

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