Evaluation of common infections in elderly patients admitted to infectious department of Sanandaj City’s Hospitals in 2017

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Introduction: The risk of getting infections increases in elderly patients. Despite the progress made in tracking, diagnosing and treating infectious diseases in the elderly, infection is still the reason for 30% of elderly mortality. This study is aimed to evaluate common infections in elderly patients admitted to infectious department of Sanandaj city’s hospitals.

Materials and Methods: In this cross-sectional study, we used descriptive-analytical method. The study population included all patients over 65 years old who were admitted to the infectious department of Sanandaj city’s educational hospitals from April to December 2017. Using Morgan table, 300 patients were selected by simple random sampling, their physical history and examination were done and laboratory and imaging tests were carried out. Data were entered into a checklist containing demographic information, clinical symptoms and laboratory findings. Data analysis was done using descriptive statistics.

Results: According to the findings, 54.9% of patients were female. The mean age of patients was 75 years. The most common infectious diseases among the elderly were pneumonia (22.6%), urinary tract infection (15.4%) and septicemia (12.1%).

Conclusion: It seems that the most common infectious diseases leading to hospitalization and death in the elderly are pneumonia and urinary tract infection. Paying attention to clinical symptoms, especially weakness and lethargy, can affect the early onset of treatment and thus reducing mortality.