ABSTRACT

THE CONFORMITY OF PARENT’S REPORTS ABOUT FOOD ALLERGY IN CHILDREN AND SKIN PRICK TEST (SPT) IN PEDIATRIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT DR. SOETOMO HOSPITAL SURABAYA DURING 2015

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Food allergy is common in children and prevalence is generally rises every year. Its manifestation involves few organ systems, ranging from mild to severe. Foods with high nutrition value are causing these reactions such as cow’s milk, eggs, chicken, and seafood. Combined with increasing needs for child’s growth, the imprecision of parent’s estimation about particular food causing the reaction can leads to unnecessary restrictions of certain food, and in the end, disturbing child’s growth and development. Aim of this study is to know whether parent’s report fits the skin prick test results. This research uses patient’s medical record data in total sampling throughout the year with inclusive criteria, analyzing it both manually and by using SPSS to know the degree of agreement (Kappa’s coefficient) and significance (p).

Results: 154 subject’s data are collected, aged 0-18 years old. Parent’s report for food allergy are higher than positive skin prick test results in every allergen except for saltwater fish. Allergy incidence are caused, in order, by cow’s milk and chicken (25.3%), seafood (23.8%), eggs (22.1%), chocolate (20.1%), fruits (14.3%), and fish (1.9%). Kappa’s coefficient are all poor (<0.2) and p value are all <0.05 except for chicken (p=0.02).

Most parents tend to overestimate the causing food while not every reaction is an allergy. Positive skin prick test only implies sensitization to certain food. It is only called allergy if the test turn positive accompanied by any clinical manifestations.
In conclusion, every patient experiencing allergy reaction should be tested with skin prick test to determine whether it is an allergy or not.

Keywords: food allergy, cow’s milk allergy, chicken allergy, seafood allergy, egg allergy, fish allergy, fruit allergy, chocolate allergy