

FOOD ALLERGY IN PAEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH LIVER TRANSPLANTATION

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INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE

An increase in the incidence of food allergy (FA) has been reported in transplanted patients.

The aim of this study is to describe the frequency and clinical presentation of FA, its risk factors and the relationship with immunosuppressive drugs in a cohort of paediatric patients with liver transplant (LT).

METHODS

We conducted a retrospective descriptive study by reviewing the database of the Paediatric Liver Transplant Unit of our centre. We reviewed all paediatric patients who received a LT in the period between 2006 and December 2018. Personal and family history of atopy and FA were collected, as well as new allergies detected in the post-transplant period, the age of presentation of the allergic symptoms, allergens, Prick-test, RAST, total IgE. and the immunosuppressive treatment received.

RESULTS

General information:

- January 2006→December 2018
- 154 LT
- 54% men / 46% men
- Median 14 years at trasplant (1-8.2)
- Most frequent aetiology: Biliary atresia (36.3%, 56/154)

Food Allergy after LT:

- 16 patients (10.3%, 16/154)
- Median time after LT 16 months (10.7-51)
- Pre LT atopy: 5 patients (p 0.009)
- Most frequent aetiology: Biliary atresia (69%; 11/16)

Atopy family

	Yes	No	
FA	4	12	16 (25%)
No FA	2	115	117 (1.9%)

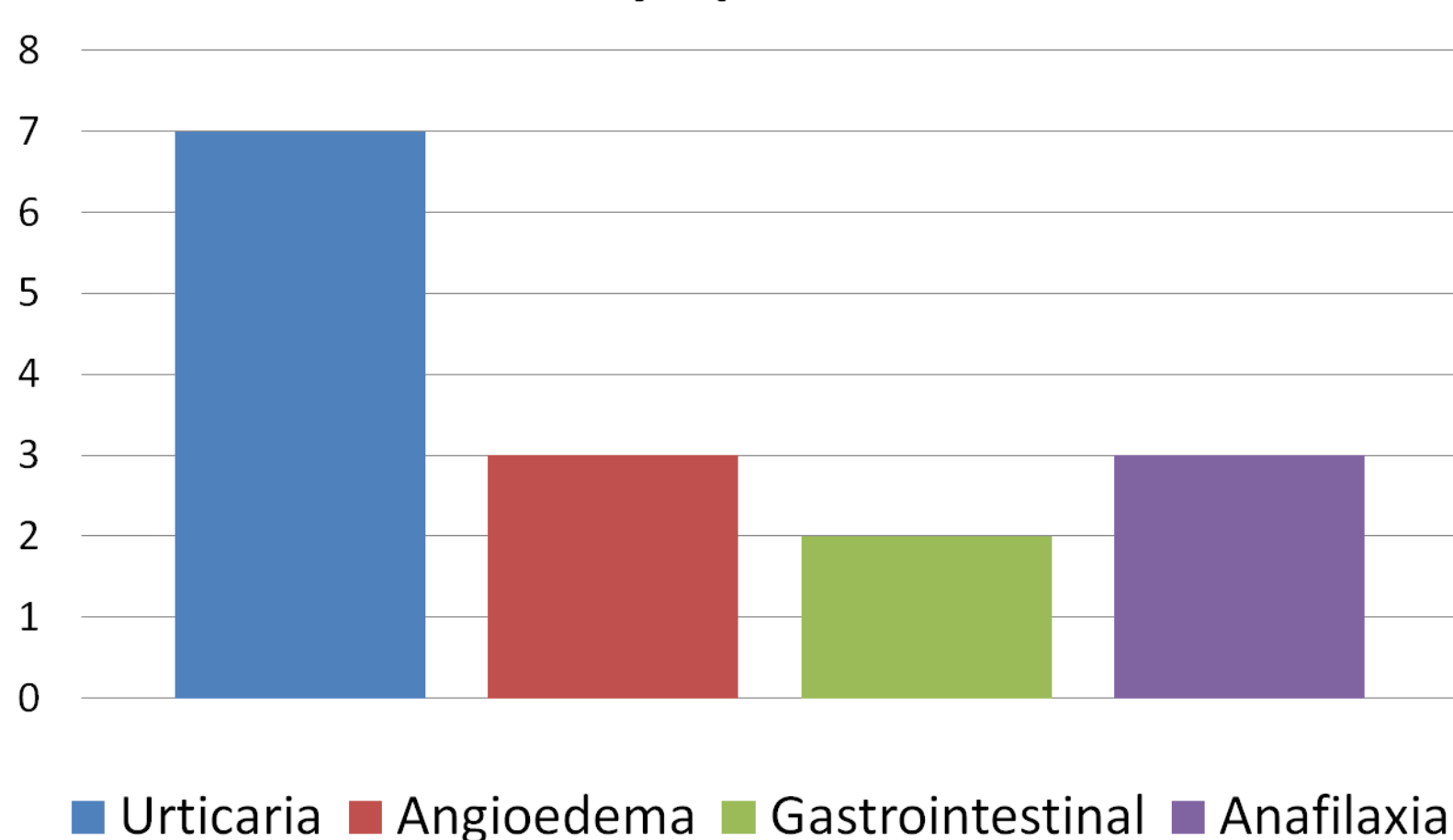
p 0.002

Age LT (months)

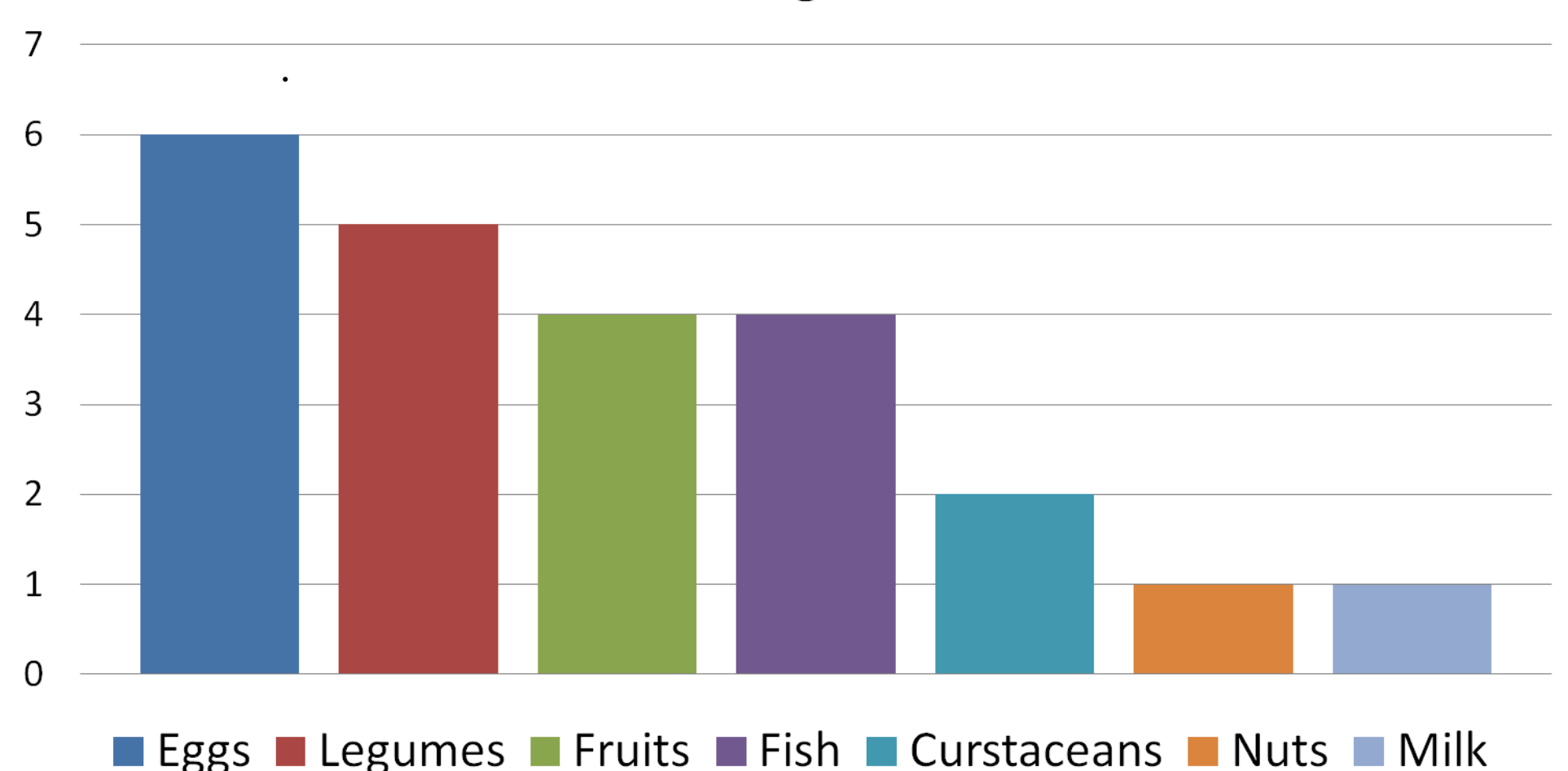
FA	No FA	
11.5	42	
(7-17.7)	(15-112.2)	

p 0.007

Symptoms



Allergens



CONCLUSIONS

Pediatric patients with LT are at risk of developing FA. In our sample, the age at transplant and the personal and family history of atopy are associated with an increased risk of presenting food allergy after LT.

