

Childhood Bronchiectasis : A Review

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More than two decades ago, bronchiectasis unrelated to cystic fibrosis (CF) was termed “Orphan disease”, because it had become an uncommon clinical entity among children in the developed world. It is more common among children in lower socioeconomic classes and in developing countries, due to more frequent recurrent respiratory infections, environmental airway irritants, poor immunization, and malnutrition. The pathophysiology includes airway inflammation, mucous production, and regional airway obstruction, but the reasons some children develop bronchiectasis while other do not is not clear. Public measures aimed at improving living conditions for children and prevention of respiratory infections with anti-viral vaccines will have a good impact on childhood bronchiectasis than medical treatment.

Bahrain Med Bull 2006: 28(2):