

Oral Azithromycin Reduces Acute Episodic Airway Symptoms in Young Children

Mathew JL, et al. Indian Pediatr. 2016; 53(3): 244-7.

- A randomized, double-blind trial was conducted in 72 children (age=1 to 3 years) with recurrent asthma-like symptoms to assess duration of episodes after a 3-day course of oral azithromycin vs. placebo.
- The mean duration of the episode after treatment was 3.4 days for children receiving azithromycin compared with 7.7 days for children receiving placebo. **Azithromycin caused a significant shortening of the episode by 63.3%.**
- **The effect size increased with early initiation of treatment, showing a reduction in episode duration of 83% if treatment was initiated before day 6 of the episode compared with 36% if initiated on or after day 6.**

Azithromycin reduced the duration of episodes of asthma-like symptoms in young children.