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| **ISA ISPID  Abstract Submission  Nº: 233**   |  | | --- | | Topics: **SIDS/SUID** | | Type: **Thematic Panel** | | **Disclosing  what's behind  what's  apparent:  a challenge for evidence-based medicine** | | **Piumelli, Raffaele** 1 *1 - Center for Sleep Disordered Breathing, Meyer Children's Hospital, Florence.* | | **Objectives of the session** The objective of the panel is to discuss the possibility of tracking behaviours  that allow us to manage infants with " Apparent Life Threatening Events" (ALTE) in safety, making the approach easier, reducing family stress, and ensuring correct  use of the resources, sharing our experiences with  Latin American countries.  **Content of the session** Behind what’s apparent could there be an event that has really put the child at risk (true) or is it just a case of incorrect assessment by the observer (falsely alarming)?  Lying between these two extremes, a whole series of intermediate situations  could represent events with varying degrees of severity. The problem of Apparent Life-Threatening Events (ALTE) is therefore a formidable testing ground that exposes the physician to not easily solved dilemmas. The observer’s report is the essential tool to be used by the clinician in orienting the diagnosis approach, as usually, when the child comes under his observation, is already in a stable condition with little or no significant  semiological  signs. As is known, the witness’s  narrative of  the event is an extremely slippery ground since its veracity is conditioned by the observer’s experience and emotions, as well as by the circumstances of the event: it may even be a lie in the case of abuse (invented). The context in which the patient  is handed over is also made difficult by the understandable anxiety of the parents. Therefore, in addition to his strictly professional skills, the physician must also possess great  communication and listening skills in order to attempt to capture those crucial elements for guiding  the decisions  that often have to be made in haste, such as which exams to carry out, whether the infant should be kept under observation, or whether the family will be capable of managing the child at home even though the event was “apparently” mild. This topic is of special interest and relevance, despite having already been the subject of a study just on a century ago. In 1923 an editorial in *Lancet* described specific episodes, at times fatal, characterised by recurrent apnoea and cyanosis with intercritical, asymptomatic phases. The author of this article, Still, therefore recommended that infants with this clinical condition be “closely watched both during the day and night”. Fortunately, technological progress has allowed us to circumvent this recommendation by entrusting night-time surveillance of the child to monitoring instruments rather than to caregivers. However, the different speeds at which technological and scientific progress move enable us to foresee the numerous issues regarding both the clinical management and the physiopathological aspects of ALTE, especially when idiopathic (IALTE). It is precisely the latter that represents a valuable study subject, since this event, despite exhibiting “stereotyped” symptoms, could be the result of the impact of multiple “triggers” or otherwise  remain unexplained. Can what is apparent be “pigeonholed” in guidelines?  **Method and extent of audience participation** The panel will be structured with two chairs : Prof. Vrginia Kanopa and Dr. Rafffaele Piumelli and three speakers: Dr. Manuel Rocca Rivarola ( Argentina): The management of ALTE in Latín American countries  Dr. Raffaele Piumelli (Italy):ALTE: the Italian Network Dr. Ben A. Semekrot (The Netherlands):A Multidisciplinary Guideline for Apparent Life-Threatening Events (ALTE): The Dutch Experience.  Clinicians and resarchers in this specific would be the target of the panel.  **Proposed content area and why it is important to participants** The topic will be of interest for clinicians and researchers involved in the field of sleep disorderd breathing and  emergency medicine. The problem of Apparent Life-Threatening Events (ALTE) is  a challanging testing ground that exposes the physician to clinical dilemmas:  was the event  true, falsely alarming or invented. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **CONTACT** | | | Name: | **Raffaele** | | Lastname: | **Piumelli** | | E-mail: | **raffaele.piumelli@meyer.it** | | Country: | **Italy** | | Institution | **Center for Sleep Disordered Breathing, Meyer Children's Hospital, Florence** | | Cellphone: | **333/3180402** | | City: | **Florence** | |