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The value of multidisciplinary team meetings (MDTm) in the diagnosis and management of childhood interstitial lung disease (chILD) among the RespiRare network

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BACKGROUND

- Epidemiological data are limited
- Childhood interstitial lung disease (chILD) is most likely under-diagnosed
- The development of expertise networks and national or international databases are crucial to increase knowledge in chILD
- The multidisciplinary team meetings (MDTm) are essential tools to increase diagnostic yield and management

OBJECTIVES

➢ **TO STUDY THE VALUE OF MDTm IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF chILD**

➢ **TO EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF MDTm FOR THE USERS**

PATIENTS/METHODS

MDTm were set up by the RespiFIL network in 2018

- How: Each month, by video conference, enabling screen and data sharing

- Who: A quorum, pediatric pulmonologists, radiologists, geneticists, and pulmonologists, with an average of 10.5 participants per meeting

To evaluate the usefulness of the MDTm and the satisfaction of the participants, a survey was sent by email at least 3 months after the MDTm to the participants

CONCLUSION

- **MDTm** meet a general need for clinicians to be supported in their diagnostic work-up and management, particularly in areas where there are fewer professionals with expertise in rare respiratory diseases

- **ChILD's MDTm** allow to share knowledge and develop promising research projects

RESULTS

Between April 2018 and December 2022, **216 patients were discussed**

- 178 patients from 36 RespiRare centers
- 38 patients from other countries
- 116 boys / 100 girls
- 142 were under 2 years of age

Before MDTm, **the thoracic CT-scan was the most frequently performed**.

Genetic analysis was widely performed (71% patients), while only 19% of children had a lung biopsy.

The MDTm allowed

- A correction of the chILD diagnosis in 25 % patients (**Figure 1**)
- To exclude chILD in 7% patients
- A treatment modification for 99 (46%) children (increase in the treatments number or dosage for 78 (36%)children, decrease for 18 (8%) children and modification in 16 (7%)children.

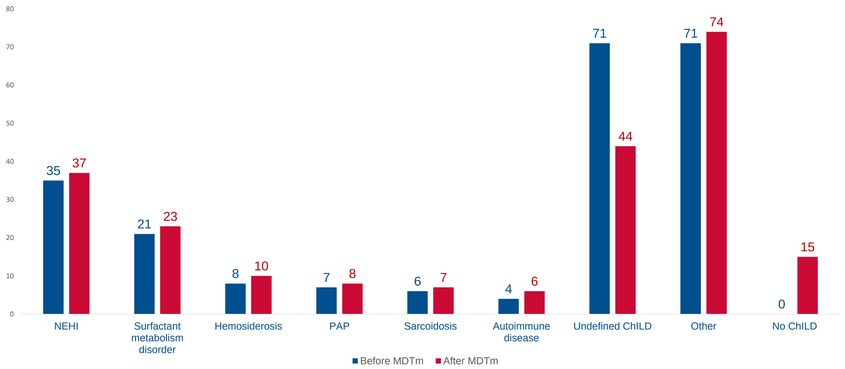

Figure 1. Comparison of the chILD diagnoses before and after MDTm

Satisfaction of the users

- A total of 32 answers to the survey were obtained
- Mains benefits identified : assistance with therapeutic management (75%) and diagnosis (68.8%), increasing the knowledge (43.8%)
- Participants rated, from 1 to 10. A score > 7/10 was obtained in 73.8% and a score <5/10 was obtained in only 6.2% of cases