Human enteroviruses and parechoviruses: disease spectrum and need for treatment in young children
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**Human enteroviruses and parechoviruses:**
**disease spectrum and need for treatment in young children**

1. Enteroviruses and parechoviruses are amongst the most prevalent viruses in young children and elicit a wide range of disease from mild illness to life-threatening infections.

   *This thesis*

2. The clinical relevance of a positive parechovirus or enterovirus PCR in stool, nose or throat must be interpreted in relation to clinical symptoms, since viral load cannot distinguish between symptomatic infection and asymptomatic shedding.

   *This thesis*

3. Although intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) is considered of limited use in the treatment of severe enterovirus and parechovirus infections, IVIG can be effective if it contains high antibody titers against the infecting enterovirus or parechovirus type.

   *This thesis*

4. Antibodies play an important role in the immune response against most enteroviruses and parechoviruses, but cannot fully explain the differences in pathogenesis of disease of the various enterovirus and parechovirus types.

   *This thesis*

5. Pleconaril is the only antiviral drug with proven *(in vitro and in vivo)* activity against enteroviruses with relative few side effects and should be available (on compassionate use basis) for patients with severe enterovirus infections.

   *This thesis*

6. The single biggest threat to man’s continued dominance on the planet is the virus.

   *J. Lederberg, Nobel laureate*

7. The art of medicine consists in amusing the patient while nature cures the disease.

   *Voltaire*

8. Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

   *Nelson Mandela*

9. Science, my lad, is made up of mistakes, but they are mistakes which it is useful to make, because they lead little by little to the truth.

   *Jules Verne*

10. “Quomodo fabula, sic vita: non quam diu, sed quam bene acta sit, refert.”

    As is a tale, so is life: not how long it is, but how good it is, is what matters.

    *Lucius Annaeus Seneca*