CASE STUDY

Status epilepticus: a possible association with human metapneumovirus infection

CATEGORISING

Type: Research project with existing biological material or genetic data
Subtype and Category: Research project with existing non-coded biological material or genetic data

BACKGROUND

Human metapneumovirus is a relatively new addition to the many viruses that cause respiratory illness in infants and children. Data on the association of human metapneumovirus with neurologic complications is limited.

METHODS

In this report, we described two toddlers with human metapneumovirus infection who presented in status epilepticus and went on to develop respiratory failure. Data was collected from the routine hospital health record.

QUESTIONS OF THE CATEGORISER

Does the research project come under the scope of application of the Human Research Act?
No

BECAUSE

This project was not based on a study protocol, and did not define the exact procedures used to identify and describe the cases. Instead it described two cases identified during routine clinical practice. Thus, it was not “method-driven search for generalizable knowledge”. It is not classified as research by the HRA.