

WEBINAR

Medications: 'Do No Harm'

January 16, 2021

- AHC Webinar Hosted by AHCF and Cure AHC
- Co-Moderators Heather Gates and Lynn Egan



PHYSICIAN PANEL

The first question will be directed to the physician listed on each slide.
All physicians will be invited to provide input after the initial answer.

- Dr. Kevin Ess
- Dr. Alfred George
- Dr. Mohammad Mikati
 - Dr. Ken Silver
 - Dr. Matt Sweney
- Dr. Kathy Swoboda



COMMONLY USED MEDICATIONS FOR AHC SYMPTOMS

Dr. Silver

- Are all AHC symptoms treatable?
- Commonly used medications for:
 - Anti-seizure
 - Anti-spasmodic (baclofen)
 - Botox
 - Benzodiazepines (ativan)
 - Calcium channel blockers (flunarizine)



RESCUE MEDICATION

Dr. Swoboda

- Should rescue meds be used for every kind of AHC episode?
- When are rescue meds appropriate to use?
- What would be the criteria?
- Are there side effects or lack of efficacy if used continuously?



OVERALL PICTURE

Dr. Mikati

AHC causes issues with other body systems (i.e. Behavior and anxiety, GI, Gynecological meds or shots, Pulmonary, Cardiac, Sleep, Dystonia).

How do the parents and their physician determine if these other symptoms are AHC related or a separate issue?

What is the course of action?



INTERACTION/WEANING OFF MEDICATIONS

Dr. George

- Starting new meds – benefit vs risk
- Weaning off meds not working
- Side effects of weaning too fast
- Stopping cold turkey
- How does a physician decide which drug to prescribe for a patient?



ALTERNATIVES TO MEDICATIONS

Dr. Ess

- CBD
- Ketogenic diet
- Vitamins
- Herbals
- Other supplements



ARE WE OVERMEDICATING OUR CHILDREN?

Dr. Swoboda

- Initial diagnosis – reassessing need for meds prescribed during misdiagnosis
- Not all symptoms need to be treated with meds
- What are appropriate doses for medications
- Criteria?



COVID-19 VACCINE

- Should we vaccinate our children?

