

clinicians may not be equipped to meet the needs of families in this area. Informational resources about sleep (for CYP, parents and clinicians) could be useful and offer the potential to mitigate, although not overcome, some of the existing challenges.

### 09 AN AUDIT OF THE ANNUAL PRESCRIBING PATTERNS OF MELATONIN WITHIN A REGIONAL PAEDIATRIC DEPARTMENT IN THE NORTH EAST OF ENGLAND

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**Intro** Melatonin is widely used off licence in children and young people with an evidence base for delayed sleep phase syndrome but only modest impact as a hypnotic. We reviewed national and regional prescribing data and undertook a detailed review of all melatonin prescriptions issued to those under the age of 18 within one of the UK's largest dedicated paediatric hospitals, this included cost analysis. This was aimed at understanding whether prescribing was appropriate, whether alternative behavioural therapies had been recommended and whether there had been consideration of other causes of poor sleep.

**Method** All melatonin prescriptions issued from the hospital for patients under the age of 18 over a year were measured. We assessed whether prescriptions were issued in accordance with local Melatonin Shared Care Guidance standards<sup>1</sup> that emphasise fixed timing and review of benefit. This included reviewing all electronic patient care records.

**Results** Adherence to the standards outlined in the shared care agreement were not being met. There was a difference between prescriptions issued by the community team versus inpatients, outpatient prescribing had better documentation about discussions regarding breaks and reviewing the dose.

See table 1. Total costs of prescriptions £13,299.16; the majority of this was for oral suspension (£8730.34), this should be third line and not issued to children under 5 years.<sup>1</sup>

**Discussion** The evidence base for melatonin highlights the importance of advice around timing, behavioural intervention and review of ongoing need and benefit. The audit highlighted a lack of knowledge about melatonin and led to a trust wide sleep education programme. While well tolerated for many, there is a cost to inappropriate prescribing. There is a clear need for better access to behavioural interventions and better support for carers with education, information and support.

### REFERENCE

1. <http://www.northoftyneapc.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2021/07/Melatonin-Shared-Care-June-2021.pdf?UNLID=3666073762022127193353> North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria Area Prescribing Committee Melatonin for the management of Sleep-Wake Disorders In Children and Young People. Accessed May 2023

### 010 3D-DESIGNED CUSTOM-MADE MODULAR HEADGEAR FOR CHILDREN USING NON-INVASIVE VENTILATION. [THE 'COMFORT' PROJECT: CUSTOM-MADE FACEMASKS FOR RESPIRATORY THERAPY]

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Non-invasive ventilation (NIV) is assisted respiratory support delivered via facemask for people with chronic respiratory failure. Commercial NIV masks are available but masks that fit well are difficult to find for children who have small or asymmetrical facial features. Compromised ventilation can have significant health and quality of life impacts for patients and their families.

Previous development of 3D printed custom-made masks to improve comfort, fit and performance of NIV for children revealed that in 45% mask-fit was compromised by poorly-fitting headgear (Willox 2020).<sup>1</sup> Parents report that headgear is of 'paramount' importance for mask-fit.

Design concepts and materials for a custom-made modular headgear were refined using patient and parent/carer feedback until a final prototype was reached. The custom-made headgear was evaluated against a comparator mass manufactured stock headgear using adult volunteers using pre-set levels of headgear strap tension (100g, 200g and 300g). Air leak was demonstrated using leak data from a Nippy Junior Plus ventilator and pressure was measured using a Tekscan F-Socket 9811 pressure sensor array.

Air leak measurements at medium tension (200g) were 82 l/min for custom mask/custom headgear, 69 l/min for stock mask/custom headgear and 79 l/min for stock mask/stock headgear. Pressure readings at the nasal bridge at medium load (200g) were 86 g/cm<sup>2</sup> for custom mask/custom headgear, 53g/cm<sup>2</sup> for stock mask/custom headgear and 123 g/cm<sup>2</sup> for stock mask/stock headgear.

At medium tension, a stock mask with customised headgear was the optimum combination. 3D printing of silicon is in its infancy therefore 3D custom-made mask technology is evolving; however implementation of custom-made headgear may result in significant patient benefit.

**Abstract 09 Table 1** Documentation of key shared care recommendations

| Documentation of -                     | Yes     | No      |
|--|---------|---------|
| Patient bedtime                        | 152/220 | 68/220  |
| Bedtime routine                        | 101/220 | 119/220 |
| Prior behavioural input                | 20/220  | 200/220 |
| Recommendations about timing           | 123/220 | 97/220  |
| Consideration of risk factors for OSA  | 32/220  | 188/220 |
| Review of dose /discussion with family | 74/220  | 146/220 |