

Age Differences in Food Allergy Reaction Severity During Oral Food Challenges

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Introduction

- Food allergy (FA) reactions range from mild to life threatening and may differ with age.

Methods

- Retrospective review of oral food challenges (OFC) from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Vanderbilt University Medical Center.
- Severity of reaction and mortality compared between infants, toddlers, young children, older children, teens.

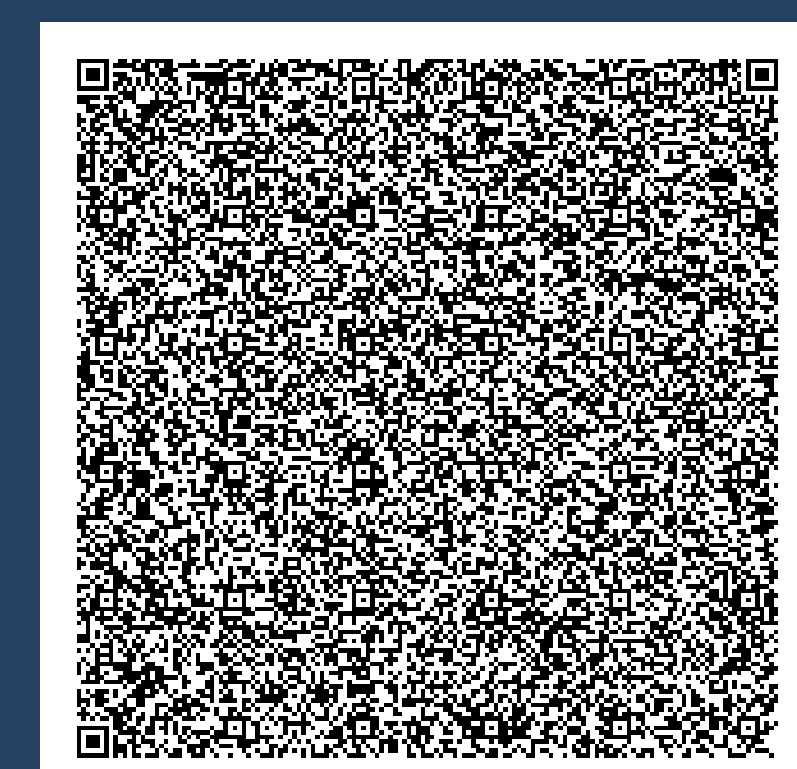
Results

- Infants and toddlers had fewer severe reactions, those involving cardiovascular (CV) and/or lower respiratory (LR) symptoms (A) lower epinephrine requirement (B).
- FA mortality was highest in older children and teens with no deaths under 1 year of age (C).

Resources

- National Food Allergy Death Registry: nationalfoodallergydeathregistry.org

The severity of food allergy reactions increases with age and fatal food reactions are particularly low in infants and toddlers, supporting early allergen introduction.



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Figure 1

Age differences in FA reaction severity during OFC based on CV/LR (A) and epinephrine requirement (B).

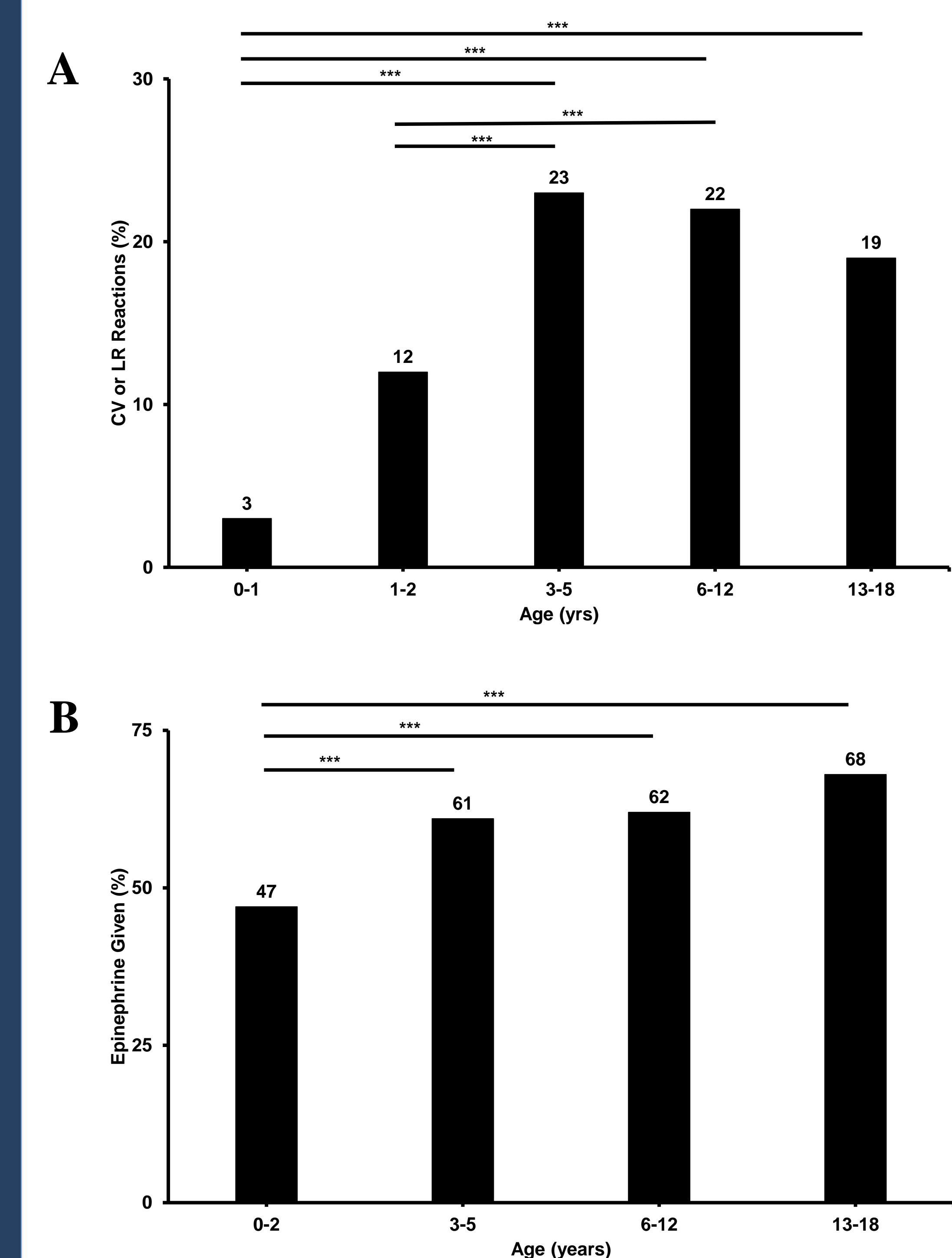


Figure 2

National registry food allergy-related mortality rate by age

