Analysis Of An After-Care Questionnaire
In Allergic People To Dust Mites
Using Anti-Dust Mites Bed Covers

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Introduction

Dust mites allergy, by its frequency and its intensity has become a main preoccupation. There are numerous products on the market that get rid of them. Indeed, there are anti-dust mites bed covers which permit to isolate bedding elements (like anti-dust mites bed covers made with the help of a micro-woven cotton or an non woven polyester polyamide process). The process MWC allows compression of the fiber over its entire surface before weaving. A filtration level of a few microns is thus achieved, even with 100% cotton fibers.

The goal of the study was to assess in a declarative way, the symptoms felt by the patients and the impact of micro-woven cotton (MWC) and a non woven polyester polyamide (NWP) anti-dust mites bed covers on allergic volunteers to dust mites.

Materials and methods

Protocol:
- This study is a descriptive survey based on an after-care questionnaire handed out to a group of 419 volunteers allergic to dust mites.
- A quality questionnaire has been sent, enclosed to each order, to every patient. This questionnaire proposed to each patient the later sending of an after-care questionnaire.
- Among patients having solicited this after-care questionnaire between September 2008 and October 2010, 419 questionnaires have been randomly sent on November 5th. Between November 22nd and December 2nd 2010, 150 questionnaires have been received - 109 of which have been used.
- The main criterion of exclusion was the lack of information. The inclusion criterion was the use by the volunteers of an anti-dust mites bed cover type MWC or NWP.
- Results have been compared by two way ANOVA with a post-test of Bonferroni. A value of p<0.05 has been considered as significant.

Results

Figure 1: Variation of discomfort level felt before and after the anti-dust mites bed cover use.

- The discomfort level felt by the allergic volunteers to dust mites has significantly decreased after the anti-dust mites bed cover use.

Figure 2: Variations of discomfort level felt according to the type of the anti-dust mites bed cover used before and after the anti-dust mites bed cover installation.

- The use of a anti-dust mites bed cover MWC or NWP reduces significantly and similarly the level of discomfort felt by the volunteers with a dust mites allergy.

Figure 3: Variations of discomfort level felt according to the age bracket before and after the use of anti-dust mites bed covers.

- The discomfort level felt is similar according to different age groups.

Figure 4: Variations of discomfort level felt according to the Term of Use before and after the anti-dust mites bed cover installation.

- The use of anti-dust mites bed covers over time does not cause changes on the lower level of discomfort. This indicates that the anti-dust mites bed covers keep the same efficiency over time.

Figure 5: Number of additional avoidance measures taken before and after the anti-dust mites bed cover installation.

- After the anti-dust mites bed cover use, the discomfort level felt has a trend to be lower when the number of additional avoidance taken by the volunteer increases.

Figure 6: Symptoms experienced by volunteers allergic to dust mites before and after the anti-dust mites bed cover use.

- The discomfort level felt before the anti-dust mites bed cover use is similar whatever the symptom. The decline of the discomfort level is similar between the different groups.

Conclusion

To conclude, we can say the analysis of after-care questionnaires shows the use of anti-dust mites bed cover permits to significantly reduce the symptoms felt by allergic patients to dust mites. Moreover, it underlines the fact that the use of MWP anti-dust mites bed cover or NWP anti-dust mites bed cover had a similar efficiency on the reduction of symptoms felt.