

INTRODUCTION

The epidemiological data and characterization of allergic and nonallergic rhinitis symptoms are among the most common problems presenting to physicians.

Non allergic rhinitis appears to be very common with a prevalence of approximately 15% of the global of rhinitis in Europe, mixed rhinitis 30% , and allergic rhinitis ("pure" and "mixed" combined) 70% approximately.

Challenges in the diagnosis results from the factor that differential diagnosis of nonallergic rhinitis is extensive and sometimes symptoms of allergic, nonallergic, and mixed rhinitis are often indistinguishable.

Searching in the literature there is a clear consensus in the classification but is difficult to found one that include and ordered all the different etiologies.

In other hand it is also difficult to find an specific diagnostic algorithm for this disease that reunite ENT and allergies protocols.

METHODS

In the literature there many different classifications of rhinitis and not clear specific diagnostic algorithms published by ENT and allergists. There is not a general consensus in these descriptions.

After reviewing over and try to reunite different consensus from several guidelines as; ARIA guide , GEMA guide , Rhinitis guidelines from de AAACI and the last global atlas of allergic rhinitis and chronic rhinosinusitis from the EAACI and some other publications in allergy an ENT for classification and diagnosis of rhinitis we propose two tables with both of these sections.

For the algorithm we summarize the history and the allergy and ENT tests for the study and diagnosis of rhinitis.

RESULTS

After reviewing and summarizing different consensus described before we present:

Table 1. Classification of Rhinitis

Table 2. Diagnosis algorithm for Rhinitis

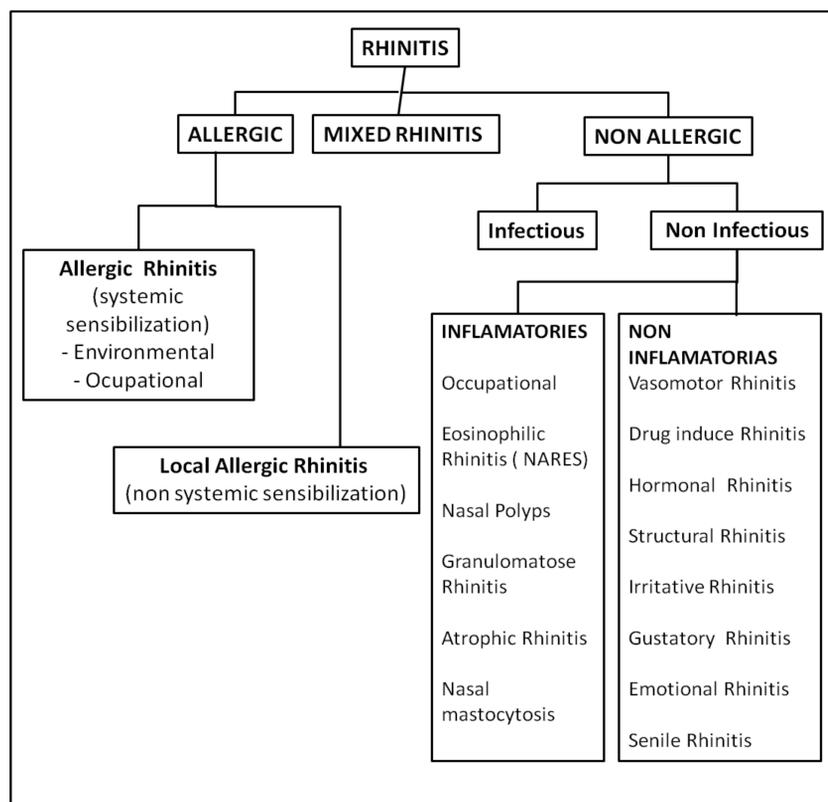


Table 1 . Classification of Rhinitis

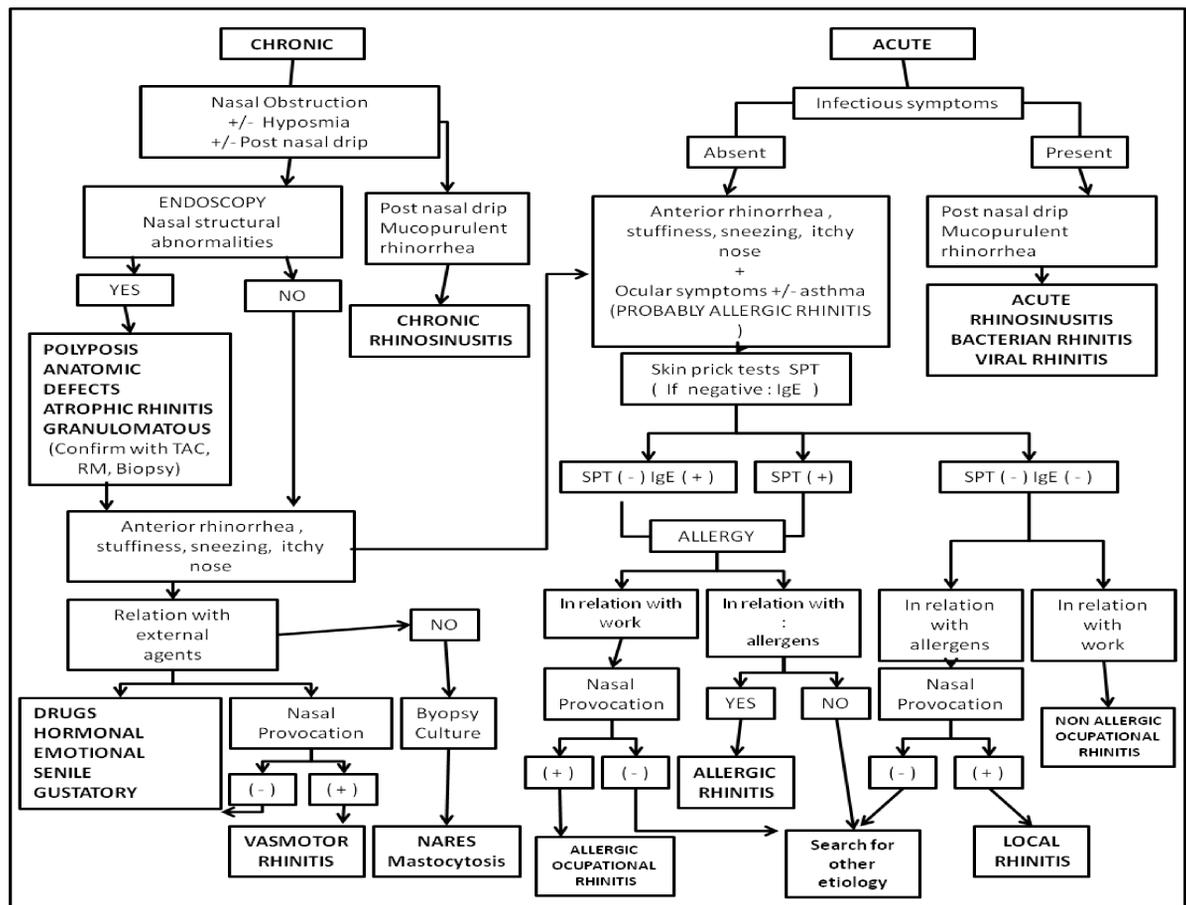


Table 2. . Diagnosis algorithm for Rhinitis

CONCLUSIONS

When approaching rhinitis, diagnostic challenge is to determine the etiology, specifically whether it is allergic, nonallergic, or perhaps an overlap of both conditions; mixed rhinitis.

With these proposal tables it could be more easy to differentiate and lead to a correct diagnosis.