

A study on evaluation of aetiological factors that causing acute and chronic pancreatitis among patients who admitted to Teaching Hospital, Jaffna

A one year hospital based cross sectional study

Dr.Vishnukanth.M, Dr.Gobishangar.S

Introduction : Pancreatitis is one of the common cause for acute abdomen in patients admitted to casualty surgical wards. It is fairly common in Jaffna population as well. Several aetiologies have been discovered all over the world but the most common aetiological factor has regional variation. We design this study to evaluate the common aetiological factor causing acute and chronic pancreatitis among patients admitted to Teaching Hospital Jaffna, comparing with the respective international values.

Objectives : To assess the age distribution, gender distribution, common aetiologies and the influence of alcohol consumption among patients admitted to Teaching Hospital Jaffna for a period of one year from April 2015 to April 2016.

Method : Data were collected from all the patients diagnosed to have either acute or chronic pancreatitis from all surgical and medical wards in Teaching Hospital Jaffna. Data were collected using interviewer administered questionnaire and were analysed using SPSS version 21. Analysed results are presented as percentage or mean.

Results : Among 53 patients 29 (54.7%) patients had acute pancreatitis whereas 24(45.3%) patients had chronic pancreatitis. Among those 40(75.4%) patients were males and remaining 13(24.5%) patients were females. Therefore the male :female ratio is approximately 3:1. The age distribution ranges from 9 to 66 and for the acute pancreatitis most commonly affected age group is 40-50years(27.59%) and for the chronic pancreatitis most commonly affected age group is 50-60years(33.33%) and the overall mean age is 45years. The most common aetiology causing both acute and chronic pancreatitis found to be alcohol consumption (28.3% in acute and 15.09% in chronic), followed by gallstone disease (5.66% in acute and 13.2%in chronic). In 5.66% of chronic pancreatitis patients both aetiologies were found. As far as the alcohol consumption is concerned 31.03% of acute pancreatitis patients consume more than 80g/dl per day whereas in chronic pancreatitis patients 25% of patients consume more than 80g/dl per day.

Conclusion : In our study the most common aetiological factor that causing acute and chronic pancreatitis was found to be alcohol consumption. It correlates with the international study reports which state that the common aetiology in Asian population is alcohol consumption whereas gallstone disease is the commonest cause in Western population. The overall mean age is 45 years and the affected women are slightly older than affected men. Although both causes are more common in men, alcohol is the leading cause in men and gallstone disease is the leading cause in women. Also men are more affected than women and the male: female ratio is slightly higher in our study.