Rising trend of seroprevalence of human amoebiasis in tertiary care hospital of North India

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Background: The present study is retrospective analysis of the data of all patients who came for the determination of anti-amoebic antibodies in sera measured by ELISA over the period of 8 years.

Methods & Materials: This retrospective study was conducted at our tertiary care hospital in North India. The case records of all patients presenting to the outpatient department or admitted to the wards and intensive care units of the hospital with clinical suspicion of amoebiasis from 2007 to 2014 were reviewed in detail.

The serum sample obtained were maintained at -20°C until use. The ELISA was performed for all samples. Qualitative estimation of serum immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibodies to E. histolytica was performed using the in-house indirect IgG ELISA from Jan 2007 to June 2013. Later on in-house ELISA was replaced by commercial ELISA (RIDASCREEN® Entamoeba histolytica IgG (K1721) kit.

Results: A total of 3136 samples from clinically suspected cases were evaluated; overall seropositivity was 61.5% with the predominance of males (85.8%). Most of the patients were adults (92.5%). Inpatient had higher seropositivity rate (55%) when compared to outpatients (45%). No significant seasonal variation was observed in seropositivity rate during this period. The prevalence varied from 47.7% to 78.7% for year 2007 to 2014, depicting an overall raising trend in seropositivity.

Conclusion: In conclusion, continuous surging pattern in the disease prevalence was seen over the years which are giving alert to take vigilant action to check the incidence and prevalence of this parasitic disease.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijid.2016.02.756

Type: Poster Presentation

Polyparasitic infections in Coeliac disease – a newer paradigm

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Background: Polyparasitism is an entity which has been increasingly reported in recent times. Literature reports of more than a single organism being involved as a causative agent is more common, however concomitant infections of more than two etiological organisms are relatively rare. Polyparasitism is mostly reported in younger age group as well as in immunocompromised individuals with acute presentations and severe symptoms. Polyparasitism might be driven either by continuous exposure to source of infection of the implicated parasites or possibly by immunologic predisposition of the host.

Methods & Materials: Stool microscopy to find out parasitic etiologies was conducted in patients (n=200) with gastrointestinal disorders using direct and concentrated techniques as well as using various staining techniques.

Results: A 19 year male from rural background with coeliac disease, without having any known immunosuppression (Antibodies to HIV, HBV, HCV were negative) presented with complaints of weight loss, chronic loose stools alternating with constipation and pain abdomen since last 7 months. Macroscopic examination of stool was not significant. On microscopic examination, several ova of helminths and cysts of protozoa were detected. Ova of Hookworm(Ankylostoma duodenale), Trichuris trichiura, Ascaris lumbricoides and cysts of Blastocystis hominis, Entamoeba coli, Iodamoeba butschlii were observed. In addition, larvae of Strongyloides stercoralis were also detected.

Conclusion: The present case emphasizes the need to rule out multiple etiologies in underlying conditions of intestinal immune imbalance disorders like coeliac disease and others. These group of patients harbour more pathogenic parasites and are more frequently colonized with harmless commensals compared to healthy individuals. The cause and effect relationship of coeliac disease and parasitism still remains to be explored. Our report, therefore, emphasizes the need to look into parasitic infestations more precisely in other gastrointestinal disorders like Inflammatory bowel disease(IIB), Crohn’s disease and Ulcerative colitis to circumvent delay in the diagnosis and for institution of appropriate treatment.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijid.2016.02.757

Type: Poster Presentation

Performance evaluation of malaria microscopists working at malaria slides rechecking laboratories for external quality assessment in Ethiopia

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Background: Microscopic diagnosis of Giemsa stained thick and thin blood films by skilled microscopists has remained the standard...