

Original Research Article

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A Study on Bacterial Etiology of Cholecystitis due to Gallstones and their Antimicrobial Susceptibility Pattern in A Tertiary Care Hospital

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ABSTRACT

Cholelithiasis is a very common condition affecting the Gallbladder. Gallstones are present in 10 -15 % of the adult population. Females are three times more likely to develop Gallstones than male. Gall stones are classified into cholesterol and pigment stone. About 80% of them are cholesterol stone and 15-20% pigment stone. Obstruction and infections are the common complications of Cholelithiasis. Approximately 1-2% of the patients become symptomatic and warrants cholecystectomy (1). With this background we conducted a cross sectional study in the Institute of Microbiology, MMC & RGGGH, for 72 consecutive patients who underwent cholecystectomy. The most common age group affected 41-60 yrs. The most common symptoms are abdominal pain, dyspepsia and Jaundice. In this study Gallstones are collected after surgery, processed and Antibiogram pattern also studied as per standard guidelines. Out of 72 samples studied 35 (48.6%) are culture positive. *Escherichia coli* is the predominant organism isolated followed by *Klebsiella pneumoniae*(52). Most of the isolates were sensitive to commonly used antibiotics for Gram Negative bacilli.

Keywords

Cholelithiasis, Gall bladder, Sickle cell disease, Cholesterol

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Introduction

Cholelithiasis is a very common condition. Gall bladder is a storage reservoir that allows bile acids to be delivered in high concentration and in a controlled manner to the duodenum for the solubilization of dietary lipids. Gallstones are present in 10-15% of the adult population. Approximately 1-2% of the

patients became symptomatic and warrants cholecystectomy. Nearly 60000 cholecystectomies are performed yearly in the United states for Gallstone related disease. Factors predisposing for the development of Gallstones are Age, Gender, Diet, Pregnancy Crohn's Disease. Hereditary spherocytosis, Sickle cell disease & Thalassemia. Females are three times more likely to develop

Gallstones than male. Gall stones are classified into Cholesterol, Pigment & mixed stones. The major predisposing factor for bacterial infection of the biliary tract is obstruction of biliary system.

Materials and Methods

We conducted a Cross sectional study, conducted in the Institute of Microbiology and Department of Gastroenterology, Rajiv Gandhi Govt general hospital, Chennai. A total of 72 consecutive patients with cholecystitis, who were posted for cholecystectomy are included. Under strict aseptic condition samples were collected from the patients and transported to laboratory and processing was done. The Gallstones were washed with sterile saline and surface decontamination was done by 70% ethylalcohol for 10 minutes. Then the Gallstones are powdered and inoculated under aseptic precaution in 15 ml of BHI brot and incubated at 37 c for 48 hours. Plating was done in Mac Conkey agar and nutrient agar & Blood agar plates & incubated at 37 c for 24 hours. As per guidelines Gram Negative & Gram positive organisms are processed and Antibiotic susceptibility pattern was identified.

Results and Discussion

Totally 72 patients were included in the study. 62.5% were females and 37.5 % were males. The most common age group observed is 41-60 years and the mean age was 40.5 years. Females outnumbered male in the ratio of 1:06. The most common symptoms observed were abdominal pain and dyspepsia 48.61% (35) patients were culture positive and 52.39% were negative. Majority of the cases strains culture positivity age category > 60 years. culture isolates from the culture of both the Common bile duct stone and common bile duct bile was one and the same in all the

cases. Most common bacteria isolated was *Escherichia coli* followed by *Klebsiella pneumoniae*. *Enterococcus faecalis* was the only Gram positive organism isolated.

In the present study, majority of the patients with Cholelithiasis were suffering from Chronic cholecystitis which constitute about 62.5% (35). 9 patients showed elevated serum bilirubin and serum alkaline phosphatase which is a useful predictor of choledocholithiasis. Elevation of serum bilirubin, aspartate aminotransferase or alkaline phosphatase are also independent positive to diagnose choledocholithiasis. (54) Laparoscopic cholecystectomy was frequently performed in our hospital as it has smaller incision, lesser duration of hospital stay and lesser post operative wound infection. (46)

Black pigment stones predominated 80.54% in females than in males 19.43%. The predisposing factors for the formation of black pigment stone include chronic hemolytic state like sickle cell disease, Hereditary spherocytosis, But in our study none of the patient had haemolytic disorders, which concludes that it may be due to genetic determinant and recurrent biliary tract infection which influence the formation of black pigment stone. (Jayanthi *et al.*).

To conclude cholelithiasis is commonly found among the population in the age group 40 -60 years and with increasing age the risk factor for formation of Gall stone increases. Women are more commonly affected than men due to hormonal factors. Fatty, Fertile female of forty are at risk of developing Gall stone formation. In the present study Chronic cholecystitis is more common than Acute cholecystitis due to Gallstones. Diagnosis of Gall stones and its completion is made easier nowadays by non invasive modality like Ultrasonogram. Laparoscopic cholecystectomy is the treatment of choice for cholelithiasis.

Table.1 Analysis of culture positivity in bile in various types of Gallstones

Type of Stone	Number of bile samples	No of culture positivity in bile	Percentage
Cholesterol	7	---	-
Pigment	57	30	52.17%
Mixed	8	5	62.5%

Table.2 Correlation of culture positivity with the clinical condition

	Culture Positivity from clinical samples				
	Gall bladder stone	CBD stone	Bile	GB stone + Bile	CBD stone + Bile
Acute Cholecystitis	----	----	6(40%)	---	---
Chronic Cholecystitis	---	---	21(46.6%)	---	---
Cholelithiasis	---	---	---	---	8 (66.66%)

Table.3 Antimicrobial susceptibility pattern of Gram Negative & Gram Positive Organism

Antibiotic	<i>Escherichia coli</i>		<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>		<i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>		<i>Citrobacter freundii</i>		<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Amikacin	16	94.11	7	87.5	4	100	3	100	2	100
Gentamicin	15	88.23	6	75	3	75	3	100	2	100
Ciprofloxacin	14	82.35	7	87.5	3	75	3	100	2	100
Ofloxacin	15	88.23	7	87.5	3	75	3	100	2	100
Cefotaxime/Ceftazidime	17	100	8	100	4	100	3	100	2	100
Piperacillin - tazobactam	17	100	8	100	4	100	3	100	2	100

Table.4

	Ampicillin		Erythromycin		Ciprofloxacin		Tetracycline		High level Gentamicin		Vancomycin		Chloramphenicol	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> (n=4)	3	75	3	75	4	100	4	100	4	100	4	100	4	100

Culture of bile is very much useful than Gallstones in detecting the etiology of Cholecystitis.

Brown pigment stones showed high culture

positivity. *Escherichia coli* was the most common organism isolated due to the Glucuronidase enzymatic activity which helps in the formation of calcium bilirubinate stones. The present study implies the

importance of obtaining bile culture at the time of cholecystectomy, so that appropriate antibiotics can be administered in the event of positive bile culture to prevent serious complications like Gram Negative Septicemia.

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