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Clinical Spectrum and Factors Predicting Complications in Patients of Dengue Fever Attending Tertiary Care Hospital – A Prospective Study

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Abstract

Background: Dengue is a rapidly spreading mosquito-borne viral disease and is emerging as a leading infectious disease in urban and periurban regions. The spectrum of manifestations in Dengue varies widely from being asymptomatic to a complicated infection presenting with shock and hemorrhage. Our study enables us to correlate the spectrum of manifestations, severity, lab investigations, and radiological means to determine the predictors of complications in Dengue Fever. Methods: The study group included n=107 patients of Prathima Institute of Medical Sciences, Karimnagar. The subjects were enrolled after taking consent for the study. Patients with a history of fever and tested positive by Lab Tests. (Dengue – NS1Ag, IgM, and IgG antibodies). Patients of minimum age 18 Yrs or more. Results: Most common symptom was fever seen in all cases. Petechiae was seen in 11.2% of the study population. Pleural effusion was seen in 8 and ascites in 9 patients. 82.2% of patients had thrombocytopenia, seen in 82.2% of the study population. Mean platelet count was 78,336 cells/mm3. 34.5% of patients had leucopenia. 32.7% patients had PCV > 45%. A four-fold rise in SGOT values and a 2-fold rise in SGPT values were seen in comparison with the normal population. **Conclusion:** Development of complications in dengue is commonly at the end of a febrile phase. The determining factors in patients with dengue fever are the development of plasma leakage. The onset of complications and duration of recovery is determined by the signs and extent of plasma leakage development of ascites and pleural effusion.