

RESEARCH

EVALUATION OF BACTERIAL PROFILE AND ANTIMICROBIAL SUSCEPTIBILITY PATTERN FOR URINARY TRACT INFECTION IN PREGNANCY

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Abstract

Background: The kidney produces sterile urine, and the bacteria proliferates in this sterile fluid using it as a culture medium. This micro-pathogen infection if occurred in pregnancy may cause significant morbidity. To evaluate the bacterial profile and antimicrobial susceptibility pattern for urinary tract infection in pregnancy. Materials and Methods: This prospective study evaluated 500 samples. The study sample consisted of urine sample of the pregnant females, who reported to our institute for antenatal checkup and volunteered to participate in the study. A clean catch midstream urine sample collected in the sterile container was used for the study. Result: The bacterial culture of the sample showed a positive result for significant number of samples (n=180). Of the total bacterial isolates (n=180), 108 were Gram negative bacteria and 72 were Gram positive bacteria. The antibiotic sensitivity pattern showed that, almost 10 percent E. coli were sensitive to ampicillin while almost 74 percent showed sensitivity to nitrofurantoin. Conclusion: The rising trend of antibiotic resistance amongst uropathogens, suggest the requirement for geographical location based information about uropathogens and its antibiotic sensitivity patterns.

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INTRODUCTION

Urinary tract is a set of organs (kidney, ureter, bladder, urethra and other structures) which accumulate, stock and discharge urine. The kidney produces sterile urine, and the bacteria proliferates in this sterile fluid using it as a culture medium. These grown micro-pathogens causes, also are the single common bacterial infection of humans. These micro-pathogens may involve lower urinary tract if occurred in pregnancy. The urinary tract infection is the commonest cause of obstetrical wards admission, and is reported in almost 20% of the pregnant women.

Urinary tract infection causes substantial amount of morbidity both in mother and in foetus, if occurred in pregnancy. Acquisition of bacteriuria during pregnancy, may be attributed to the combined physical and physiological alteration of the urinary tract which occurs in pregnancy. [5] In pregnancy, the urinary stasis also occurs due to - uretero-vesical reflux and is secondary to, 1) ureteric dilatation, 2) decreased ureteric and bladder tone caused by hormone, 3) Increased plasma volume, 4) decrease concentration of urine and 5) augmented bladder volume. [6] The decreased immunity in pregnancy adds to the growth and proliferation of microorganisms. [7.8]

The increased load of micro-pathogens in urine, may remain asymptomatic or may develop severe symptoms during pregnancy. [9] E. coli, accounts for the vast majority of urinary tract infection pregnancy, these infections are similar to non-pregnant women. [10,11] Sometimes, this E. coli may come from endogenous colon flora of, using receptor mediated ascending channel. [12] The increased level of amino acids and lactose in pregnancy also boosts the E. Coli growth. [13]

The appropriate treatment for such infection requires, an updated knowledge of causative organism and its antibiotic susceptibility. Therefore this study was designed to evaluate the bacterial profile and antimicrobial susceptibility pattern for urinary tract infection in pregnancy.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Design: This was a prospective, cross-sectional study, conducted in the Department of Microbiology, at Jan Nayak karpuri Thakur Medical College and Hospital, Madhepura. The study was approved by the institutional research and ethical committee. The study was conducted over a period of 15 month from June 2020 to September 2021. An informed and written consent was obtained from the participating subjects prior to the commencement of study.

Study Sample

The study sample consisted of urine sample of the pregnant females, who reported to our institute for antenatal checkup and volunteered to participate in the study. A clean catch midstream urine sample collected in the sterile container was used for the study. A total of 500 samples were evaluated.

Inclusion Criteria

Pregnant women willing to participate.

Exclusion Criteria

- Not willing to consent
- Other Systemic disease
- On antibiotic premedication

Procedure

All the urine samples were processed in blood agar and mac conkey agar and Microscopy was done. Culture positive was declared only if 105 or more colony forming units/ml of urine sample, of bacterial colony was grown. Bacterial colony morphology,

Gram staining and standard biochemical tests was used for bacterial identification. [14] Kirby Bauer disk diffusion technique was followed for antibiotic susceptibility. [15]

Statistical Analysis

All the data was tabulated in a Microsoft excel spread sheet. Descriptive statistical analysis was done using SPSS Software version 16.0

RESULTS

Total 500 urine samples of pregnant women were received and evaluated for bacteria pathogens along with antibiotic susceptibility. 04 samples were discarded due to technical reason, and 496 samples were evaluated.

The bacterial culture of the sample showed a positive result for significant number of samples (n=180). The detailed bacterial species isolates are shown in [Table 1].

Table 1: Detailed bacterial species isolates of samples. (Bacterial culture positive, n=180)

Bacterial Species	E.coli	Staphylococcus aureus	Coagulase negative Staphylococci (CONS)	Klebsiella	Enterococci	Acinetobacter
Found in number of samples	76	32	28	20	12	120

Table 2: Antibiotic sensitivity pattern of Gram-Negative bacteria bacterial isolates.

	AMP	AMC	CTX	CTR	CIP	GEN	AK	NIT	T	NX	IPM
E. coli (76)	8	32	40	36	44	36	40	56	28	44	57
Kleb (20)	0	4	8	8	1	8	16	8	12	12	20
Acinetoba cter (12)	0	4	4	8	8	8	8	4	4	8	9

AMP-Ampicillin, AMC-Amoxiclav, CTX-Cefotaxime, CTR-Ceftriaxone, CIP-Ciprofloxacin, GEN-Gentamicin, AK-Amikacin, NIT-Nitrofurantoin, T-Tetracycline, NX-Norfloxacin, IPM-Imipenem.

Table 3: Antibiotic sensitivity pattern of Gram-Positive bacterial isolates.

	AMP	AMC	CTX	CTR	CIP	GEN	C	NX	COT	P	E	T	LZ
S. aureus (8)	8	16	16	20	24	12	16	20	24	8	12	16	32
CONS (7)	4	12	12	14	12	8	20	8	16	4	8	16	28
Enterococci (3)	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	8	0	0	0	12

AMP-Ampicillin, AMC-Amoxiclav, CTX-Cefotaxime, CTR-Ceftriaxone, CIP-Ciprofloxacin, GEN-Gentamicin, C- Chloramphenicol, NX-Norfloxacin, COT-cotrimoxazole, T-Tetracycline, LZ- linezolid. CONS-Coagulase negative staphylococcus.

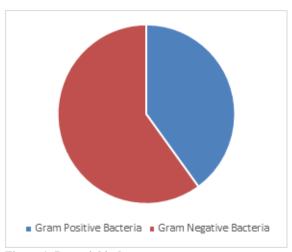


Figure 1: Bacterial isolates

Of the total bacterial isolates (n=180), 108 were Gram negative bacteria and 72 were Gram positive bacteria. [Figure 1]

The antibiotic sensitivity pattern showed that, almost 10 percent E. coli were sensitive to ampicillin while almost 74 percent showed sensitivity to nitrofurantoin. [Table 2 & Table 3].

DISCUSSION

One of the commonest findings in pregnancy is bacteriuria. The infection may remain symptomatic or asymptomatic. Both the mother and foetus are at risk, if the bacteriuria is not addressed, and it may cause wide array of problems ranging from nil to life threat. [16]

Our study, found the prevalence of urinary tract infection in 180 samples. The percentage bacterial infection in our study was higher than Akinloye et

al, [17] similar to Onuh et al, [18] and lesser than Ajayi et al. [19] Overall, the observation of our study was in range within the range of previous study reports. Yet, a few studies reported very low prevalence. [20,21,22] The study reports are spread over a wide range, may be due to inclusion of both symptomatic / asymptomatic subjects.

In the present study, the E. Coli remained the predominant isolate, the other pathogens included, S. aureus, coagulase-negative staphylococci, Klebsiella spp and Enterococci and Acinetobacter respectively in the decreasing order. This observation was similar to the previous study report of similar study. [23,24] Urine stasis during pregnancy creates a conducive environment for E.coli strain colonization. Poor genital hygiene are amongst the other possible reason for highest isolation of these strains. [25,26]

In the present study, all Gram negative and Grampositive bacteria were found sensitive to Imipenem and Linezolid respectively. Since these two drugs are not considered safe in pregnancy, therefore not recommended. About 3/4th of E. Coli and 2/5th of Klebsiella shown sensitive has towards nitrofurantoin. Nitrofurantoin is considered safe in pregnancy. Also E.coli showed poor sensitivity to Ampicillin. Gram positive bacteria also showed high resistance towards ampicillin. A high percentage of Staph aureus showed sensitivity to Ciprofloxacin and cotrimoxazole. Antibiotic abuse may be considered as a prime reason for high resistance.[27]

CONCLUSION

The rising trend of antibiotic resistance amongst uropathogens, suggest the requirement for geographical location-based information about uropathogens and its antibiotic sensitivity patterns. Early diagnosis and timely treatment becomes utmost important, to reduce UTI associated pregnancy complications.

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