

ABSTRACTS OF POSTER PRESENTATIONS

PP1

Evaluation of the adequacy of information in blood picture request forms in a tertiary care teaching hospital.

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Background: A request form for blood picture, is an important method of communication between the clinician and the haematologist. It should carry important clinical details of the patient for the haematologist to issue a report beneficial to the clinician to manage the patient. The objective of this study is to evaluate the adequacy of information provided of the clinical condition and biodata in request forms for blood picture.

Methods: A total of 350 blood picture request forms received from the professorial units of Colombo South teaching hospital over a period of four weeks were reviewed with regard to information on clinical condition and biodata. The data was analysed descriptively using a SPSS statistical software.

Results: A total of 350 blood picture request forms were analysed. The name and BHT number were present in all the request forms. However, the full name in the BHT was present in only 32% (n=112). Age, sex and the ward were mentioned in 70.3% (n=246), 76% (n=266) and 98.2% (n=344) request forms respectively. Clinical information was available in 95.1 % (n=333) request forms and was completely unavailable in 4.9% (n=17) request forms. From the request forms where clinical information was available 86.7% (n=289) had adequate clinical details. The remaining 13.3% (n=44) had insufficient clinical details for reporting.

Conclusions: The study shows that information provided by medical officers in the request forms for blood picture is sub optimal and may adversely affect clinical decision making and proper management of the patient.

Suggestion: An information leaflet and a new blood picture request form was designed to be distributed among the medical officers of the relevant units.

PP2

Chronic myelogenous leukemia in children - analysis of clinico-hematological features

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Background: Chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) is rare in children, with an annual incidence of 1 per million children. It accounts for 10-15% of all CML cases. Incidence among Asian countries is even lower.

Methods: Retrospective analysis of paediatric cases (<12 years) diagnosed as CML on morphology and confirmed by RT-PCR for *BCR-ABL1* fusion gene, over 3-year period was done. Data regarding the presenting features, haemogram and bone marrow findings was recorded.

Results: During the study period, 864 cases were diagnosed as CML, of these 13 cases (1.5%) were in paediatric age group (<12 years). The median age of cases was 9 years (range 5-12 years), with most cases being older than 7 years (69% of the patients). There was a higher prevalence in boys than girls (M: F-2.3:1). The main presenting symptoms were fever, abdominal distension and progressive pallor. Splenic enlargement was moderate to massive in most cases (69%). Median haemoglobin was 84g/L (range 70-100g/L), median total leucocyte count - $148.2 \times 10^9/L$ (range $49.3-615.5 \times 10^9/L$) and

