A Study of Abdominal Ultrasonography in Dengue Fever in Rajkot Region

Dr. Sonal A. Chavda, 3rd year resident, Department of Physiology, P.D.U. govt. medical college, Rajkot.

Dr. Sharlin B. Christian, Tutor, Department of Physiology, P.D.U. govt. medical college, Rajkot.

ABSTRACT

Dengue fever is the most rapidly spreading mosquito-borne viral disease in the world. Dengue virus is transmitted by female mosquitoes mainly of the species Aedes aegypti. It is a self-limiting acute disease characterized by fever, headache, muscle & joint pains, rashes, nausea & vomiting. Some infections result in Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever (DHF) and its severe form, Dengue Shock Syndrome (DSS). Aim of the study is to see abdominal ultrasonographic findings in dengue fever. Material & method: Study was done in 100 patients diagnosed as dengue fever and Ultrasoundography of abdomen was performed in all patients. Out of 100 patients, Usg findings were, 64% had gall bladder wall thickening, 43% had ascites, 32% had splenomegaly and 15% had Hepatomegaly. In areas where DF is epidemic, DF should be strongly considered in a febrile patient with gall bladder wall thickening, ascites, splenomegaly and/or Hepatomegaly.

INTRODUCTION

Dengue is the most rapidly spreading mosquito-borne viral disease in the world. In the last 50 years, incidence has increased 30-fold with increasing geographic expansion to new countries and, in the present decade, from urban to rural settings. Dengue virus is transmitted by female mosquitoes mainly of the species Aedes aegypti and to a lesser extent, Aedes albopictus. Dengue is a self-limiting acute disease characterized by fever, headache, muscle & joint pains, rashes, nausea & vomiting. Some infections result in Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever (DHF) and its severe form, Dengue Shock Syndrome (DSS). Aims of the study is to see abdominal ultrasonographic findings in dengue fever. Material & method: Study was done in 100 patients diagnosed as dengue fever and abdominal ultrasonography of abdomen was performed in all patients. Out of 100 patients, Usg findings were, 64% had gall bladder wall thickening, 43% had ascites, 32% had splenomegaly and 15% had Hepatomegaly. In areas where DF is epidemic, DF should be strongly considered in a febrile patient with gall bladder wall thickening, ascites, splenomegaly and/or Hepatomegaly.

RESULTS:

Table-1: Age & Sex distribution in dengue fever.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>No.of cases</th>
<th>% of cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-30</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31-40</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-50</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-60</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In our study, most of the cases belong to the age group 18-30 years. 71 cases were from 18-30 years age group, as dengue fever seen more in younger age group. 15 cases were between 31-40 years age group, 8 were from 41-50 years age group and 6 were between 51-60 years age group. Sex distribution shows 71 were males & 29 were females.

Usg findings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No.of cases</th>
<th>% of cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GB wall thickening</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascites</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Splenomegaly</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatomegaly</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table-2: Abdominal ultrasound findings in Dengue Fever

Dengue fever

Abdominal sonography had done in all 100 patients, out of which 64% of patients had GB wall thickening, 43% of patients had ascites, 32% of patients had splenomegaly and 15% of patients had hepatomegaly.

DISCUSSION:

Study shows maximum no. of patients (71%) affected between 18-30 years age group. Our study consistent with Ghosh G et al., where mean age group affected was 21-30 years & also with Farhan F & Birdar S study, where maximum cases were affected between the age group 21-30 years.

In our study 71 male patients and 29 female patients were affected. The male to female ratio is 2:4:1. It corresponds to the other studies done by Advani Sonia et al. which shows 75% were male patients and 25% were female & the male to female ratio is 3:1. In the study done by Ayyub M et al., the male to female ratio was 3:3:1.

Abdominal sonography was done in all 100 patients, out of which 64% of patients had GB wall thickening, 43% of patients had ascites, 32% of patients had splenomegaly and 15% of patients had hepatomegaly. Our study findings are supported by study done by Keng-Liang Wu et al., who mean age group affected was 21-30 years & also with Farhan F & Birdar S study, where maximum cases were affected between the age group 21-30 years.

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aly, pleural effusion, pericardial effusion and in cases of severe forms of the disease are characterized by fluid collection in the perirenal and paranephric region, hepatic and splenic subcapsular fluid, pericardial effusion, pancreatic enlargement and hepatosplenomegaly. The transient nature of the leakage implies a functional increase in vascular permeability. Disruption in the endothelial glycocalyx layer has been implicated, through immune-mediated mechanisms by the virus or the NS1 antigen adhering to the endothelial layer. The NS1 antigen is a glycoprotein secreted from dengue-infected cells and is required for viral replication. Studies have shown that NS1 can selectively bind to heparan sulphate in the glycocalyx layer of microvascular endothelial cells. Thus facilitating immune complex formation and antibody-dependent complement activation causing the endothelial damage and microvascular leakage.

several studies suggesting severe dengue is more common in a secondary infection with DENV2. During the second infection with a different dengue serotype, pre-existing antibody from the first infection fails to neutralize and may instead enhance viral uptake and replication in mononuclear cells. The resulting higher viral load has been linked to disease severity.

Conclusion:
To conclude ultrasonography of abdomen in dengue fever shows Gb wall thickening, ascites, splenomegaly & hepatomegaly.

In areas where DF is epidemic, DF should be strongly considered in a febrile patient with gall bladder wall thickening, ascites, splenomegaly and/or Hepatomegaly.

REFERENCES: