



STUDY OF RENAL AND ACCESSORY RENAL ARTERIES-ANATOMICAL STUDY

Anatomy

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ABSTRACT

In recent years, more conservative methods of surgery of the renal artery are coming up. Hence, a precise knowledge of renal vasculature has become a necessity. Knowledge of the existence of accessory renal arteries is important; otherwise, they may get inadvertently damaged during renal surgery. Furthermore, their presence must be considered while evaluating a donor's kidney for possible renal transplantation. The study may also be useful to clinicians performing invasive techniques, vascular surgeries, other uro-radiological procedures, and in cases of trauma. Keeping this in mind, this study was conducted on 100 adult cadavers. A total of 200 kidneys obtained from these cadavers were dissected and accessory renal arteries were looked for; 26 % of the specimens showed the presence of accessory renal arteries. In 20% one accessory renal artery was found, and in 3.5 % of specimens, two accessory renal arteries were seen.

KEYWORDS

Renal anatomy, kidney, renal artery ,vascularity .

1.INTRODUCTION

The advent of more conservative methods in renal surgery has necessitated a more precise knowledge of renal vasculature. Anson and Kurth¹ in 1955 have quoted "experience shows that super-numerary arteries and veins represent the rule in renal vasculature, not the exception." Being "end arteries," ligation or accidental injury to renal artery may lead to renal infarcts. This observation is important during renal transplants for a complete and accurate anastomosis with all the arteries of the donor kidney. Kem² et al in 2005 have reported two relatively young patients with significant hypertension, both having an accessory renal artery. The presence of variant renal arteries may also be associated with other underlying renal pathological conditions such as hydro-nephrosis.

2.METHODS &METHODOLOGY :

The study was based on dissection of 100 adult cadaveric kidneys. Ethical Committee approval was obtained. Comprehensive dissection was carried out, and observations on the origin and course of the renal artery were made. The presence of accessory renal arteries and their relation to the main renal artery was noted. The specimens were colored by standard color code after applying gelatin suspension, and color photographs were obtained.

3.RESULTS

FIGURE 1: RENALARTERY



FIGURE 2: RENALARTERY



4.DISCUSSION

The incidence of a number of renal arteries was compared with previous studies. According to Standing³ and Moore and Persaud,⁴ kidney receives a single renal artery in about 70% and 75% of cases, respectively. In the present study, single renal artery was observed in 74.99% of cases. The incidence of accessory renal artery according to Standing³ is about 30%. In the present study, the incidence of accessory renal artery was 26%. Decker and Du Plessis⁵ have quoted that there is an accessory renal artery in 15% and 20% of cases on the right and left side, respectively. When all accessory renal arteries were taken into consideration in the present study, higher figures were noted on the right side than on the left side. Unilateral double renal vessels were reported by Mohammed⁶ in 2012. Bilateral duplication of renal vessels was reported by Bordei et al⁷ in 2004 and by Mir et al⁸ in 2008. The same was also observed in the present study. Bilateral triple renal arteries were observed by Pestemalci et al⁹ in 2009. Anson et al¹⁰ and Reis and Esenther¹¹ have noted four arteries on the right as well as the left side. A maximum number of arteries were observed by Carson.¹² He has reported five arteries on the left side. In the present study, maximum of three renal arteries was found. The anatomic relation of these accessory renal arteries to the main renal artery was looked for. Sykes¹⁴ has noted that inferior accessory renal arteries are more common. However, Olsson¹⁶ has stated that superior accessory renal arteries are common. The present study showed a higher percentage of superior accessory renal arteries. The diversity of vascular pattern can be explained on the basis of its development. The kidney that initially develops in the sacral region gradually ascends up. As it starts ascending, newer renal arteries start developing from the aorta. With the appearance of newer arteries, the caudal branches normally involute and disappear. A less complete reduction results in extra-renal branching or in multiple arteries arising independently from the aorta. Due to this unique character of the kidney, this unusual pattern of vascular distribution is observed. The study conclusively proved the complex nature of renal vascular distribution in the population of Western India. This emphasizes the necessity of the knowledge of renal vasculature to a surgeon operating on the kidney. With the advent of laparoscopic renal surgeries and donor nephrectomies, it becomes mandatory for the surgeon to understand the abnormality or variations in the renal vasculature. If this is not identified, it may jeopardize the renal transplantation. The detailed information of the vasculature will reduce the chance of hemorrhage due to accidental trauma to accessory renal artery. This can avoid unwanted postoperative morbidity and mortality.

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