ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

General Surgery

EVALUATION OF PRESENTATION OF CERVICAL LYMPHADENOPATHY IN PAEDIATRIC AGE GROUP

KEY WORDS: cervical Lymphadenopathy (CL), lymph node, neck masses

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ABSTRACT

Cervical Lymphadenopathy (CL) is defined as the presence of cervical lymph nodal tissue measuring more than 1 cm in diameter with or without an abnormality in character. In children, it represents the majority of causes of neck masses, which can present as abnormal palpable lumps or swellings.

INTRODUCTION:

Cervical Lymphadenopathy (CL) is defined as the presence of cervical lymph nodal tissue measuring more than 1 cm in diameter with or without an abnormality in character. In children, it represents the majority of causes of neck masses, which can present as abnormal palpable lumps or swellings. Enlarged cervical lymph nodes are common in children. About 38% to 45% of otherwise normal children have palpable cervical lymph nodes. Cervical lymphadenopathy most commonly represents a transient response to a benign local or generalized infection, but occasionally it might herald the presence of a more serious disorder such as malignancy.

Observation:

The present study was aimed To study clinical and pathological correlation in pediatric cases with significant cervical lymphadenopathy and to assess the etiological factors in pediatric significant cervical lymphadenopathy.. A total of 80 patients were included over the period of one year at Department of ENT and Head & Neck Surgery, Dr. RPGMC Kangra at Tanda. Results of the study have been presented below:

Age group (years)	Frequency	percentage
<1	3	3.8
1-5	18	22.5
6-10	6	7.5
11-15	18	22.5
>15	35	43.5
Mean age(years)	11.84±6.11	

In this study, the mean age of the patients was 11.84±6.11 years, 43.2.5% of the patients age was >15years, 23% of the patients age was 11 to 15 years similarly 22.5% patients age was 1 to 5 years 7.5% of the patients age was 6 to 10 years and 3.8% of the patients age.

Gender Distribution:

Gender	frequency	percentage
Male	52	65
female	28	35

In this study, male to female ratio was 1.9:1

Chief Complaints:

Chief complaints	frequency	Percentage
Neck swelling	58	72.5
Neck swelling , Loss of Appetite and Weight Loss	5	6.3
Neck swelling and Pain	1	1.3
Neck swelling, Fever and Cough	15	18.8
Neck swelling, Loss of Appetite and Loss of Weight	1	1.3

In this study, 72.5% of the patients' chief complaints was neck swelling, 18.8% neck swelling, fever and cough, 6.3% neck swelling, loss of appetite and weight loss and 1.3% of the patients' chief complaints was neck swelling and pain similarly 1.3% neck swelling, loss of appetite and loss of weight.

Onset Of Duration:

In this study, 71% of the patients onset duration was 1 week, 18% of the patients onset duration was 4 to 5 weeks, 5% of the patients onset duration was 8 week similarly 5% patients onset duration was 8 to 9 weeks and remaining 1% patients onset duration was 5 to 7 weeks

DISCUSSION:

In this study, the mean age of the patients was 11.84±6.11 years, 44% of the patients age was>15years,23% of the patients age was 11to15years.Similarly 23% patients age was1to5 years 8% of the patients age was 6 to 10 years and 4% of the patients age <1 years. In the study by Shivaprasath et al, out of 75 patients, were in age group 4 – 8 years (47%) followed by 1- 4 yrs(27%) and then 8- 12 years (26%). In the study by Sunil Mohan et al, out of 130 cases, majority were in the age group of 4-8years (40.7%), youngest patient in our study was of 1 year age. Mishraand Garg in their study observed 36.5% patients in 4-8 yrs age group and24.1% in 8-12 years age group. Normal peak lymphatic growth occurs in the age group of 4-8yrs.This could be the reason for maximum number of cases in this age group.

In this study, male to female ratio was 1.9:1. Incidence was observed to be common in males (53.33%) than in females(46.67%)in the study byShiva prasath et al.Occurrence of cervical lymphadenopathy was observed commonly in male children (71.5%) than in female children(28.4%) in the study by Sunil Mohanetal.

In this study, 73% of the patients chief complaint was neck swelling,19% neck swelling, fever and cough, 6% neck swelling, loss of appetite and weight loss and 1% of the patients chief complaint was neck swelling and pain similarly 1% neck swelling, loss of appetite and loss of weight. In the study by Shiva prasath et al, of all the symptoms, neck swelling (80%) was the main symptom in all cases.Associated symptoms like fever and cough were 75% and 72% respectively. In the study by Mohan et al, in majority of patients the presenting symptom was swelling in the region of neck (90%),followed by fever (90%) and cough (52.9%).This was similar to the study by Ellison et al who studied 100 children with generalized lymphadenopathy observed swelling in neck as most common presenting symptom (52%of cases).

Summary:

- In this study, the mean age of the patients was 11.84±6.11 years,44% of the patients age was >15years, 23% of the patients age was11 to 15years similarly 23% patients age was 1 to 5years 8% of the patients age was 6 to 10 years

and 4% of the patients age <1years.

- In this study, male to female ratio was 1.9:1.
- In this study, 73% of the patients chief complaint was neck swelling, 19% neck swelling,fever and cough, 6% neck swelling,loss of appetite and weight loss and 1% of the patients chief complaints was neck swelling and pain similarly 1% neck swelling, loss of appetite and loss of weight.
- In this study, 71% of the patients onset duration was 1week, 18% of the patients onset duration was 4 to 5 weeks,5% of the patients onset duration was 8 week similarly 5% patients onset duration was8 to 9 weeks and remaining 1% patients onset duration was 5 to 7weeks.

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