

genetic influence in the aetiology of chronic calcific pancreatitis, a study of the dermatoglyphic pattern in this disease was undertaken.

53 patients of chronic pancreatitis, 38 first degree relatives, 25 patients of maturity onset diabetes mellitus and 100 healthy controls were included in the study. The types and frequencies of finger ridge patterns, palmar ridges and creases, their total and absolute counts, the number of tri-radial and the angle were analysed and compared in these four groups. The results, particularly, possible association of specific dermal ridge patterns with chronic pancreatitis will be discussed.

57. DETECTION OF AMOEBAE IN THE PUS SMEAR BY IMMUNOFLUORESCENCE TECHNIQUE

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Immunofluorescence is a sensitive technique for the detection of antigen and antibodies in various biological materials. In the present study, this technique was used for the detection and identification of amoebae in the pus smear of amoebic liver abscess. The method is based on the specific binding of amoebic antibody-FITC conjugate to amoebae that may be easily identified under fluorescence microscope. In brief, this method involves the purification of amoebic antibody and its labelling with FITC. This was done by the standard procedures. The conjugate formed was then incubated with pus smear on the slide for 30 min at RT and after thorough washing of the slide with water and PBS, respectively, the smear was seen under fluorescence microscope to detect amoebae. By using this technique we tested a number of pus smears both from amoebic liver abscess as well as non-amoebic abscess. The results obtained were quite valuable as the amoebae were observed only in the amoebic liver abscess cases and not in the latter. It is concluded that immunofluorescence may be used as one of the tools for the detection of amoebae in the pus smear.

58. THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF JAUNDICE IN THE MIDDLE AGED AND ELDERLY PATIENTS.

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The problem of diagnosis and management of jaundice is primarily handled by physicians. In places where modern methods like ERCP or Scans are not