

The Sucrose in Comparison with Barium Esophagogram
as an Index of Shunt Patency

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Sucrose test was used first by Shah et al in 1966 for predicting shunt patency following portosystemic anastomosis. In this study we planned to assess the accuracy of the sucrose test as compared with the barium esophagogram. A total of 40 sucrose tests were carried out, 17 pre-operatively and 23 after portosystemic shunt surgery. In the pre-operative group 14 out of 17 patients had results indicating blocked on the basis of barium esophagogram) 6 cases out of 7 had blocked shunt. In group III (patent shunt by barium esophagogram) 8 out of 13 patients revealed results suggestive of a patent shunt. The sucrose test was found therefore to correlate with the barium esophagogram in 28/37 patients yielding in accuracy of 75.5%.