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Seroprevalence of amoebiasis in a tertiary care hospital

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Abstract

Infection due to *Entamoeba histolytica* (*E. histolytica*) is one of the major health problems in developing countries. Demonstration of circulating antibodies to *E. histolytica* is widely used as a marker of immunodiagnosis for amoebiasis. The present study was carried out to determine the seroprevalence of amoebiasis and relationship between sex, age and *E. histolytica*. Material and methods : During one year retrospective study period, 168 serum samples from suspected cases of amoebiasis were collected. All sera were tested for presence of IgG antibodies against *E. histolytica* using ELISA method. Results: Out of 168 suspected patients, 94 were positive for IgG antibodies against *E. histolytica* by ELISA. The overall prevalence of *E. histolytica* was 55.9%. Among the seropositive cases, majority were males and in the age group of 31-40 years (23.4%). Infection was more prevalent in male hosts (57.5%) as compared to female hosts (50%) and had highest prevalence (100%) in age group of 0-10 years. Conclusion: Serological surveys may help to determine the endemicity of the disease. Infection of *E. histolytica* was more prevalent in male hosts and in children.

References

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