

Hyperbilirubinemia and CRP levels as predictors of appendiceal gangrene/perforation: A prospective study

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Introduction: Appendicitis is the most common intra-abdominal condition requiring surgery with a life time risk of 6%. Appendectomy continues to be one of the commonest procedures in general surgery and accounts for approximately 1% of all surgical procedures. Death, though rare, is usually due to peritonitis, intra-abdominal abscess or severe infections following perforation.

Methodology: All the cases of appendicitis presenting to one of the general surgical units in a tertiary referral hospital from July 2011 to June 2012 are included in the study. All the cases were subjected to laparoscopic/ open appendectomy. Relevant data collected and analysed.

Results: A total of 60 cases satisfied the inclusion & exclusion criteria. They were categorised into 2 groups of complicated and uncomplicated appendicitis. 32 out of 60 cases were found to have gangrenous/perforated appendix and included in complicated appendicitis group. Serum bilirubin and CRP levels have shown significant rise in complicated appendicitis group ($p < 0.01$). Hyperbilirubinemia and rise in CRP levels had shown a sensitivity of 81.25% & 96.88 and a specificity of 92.86% & 71.43% respectively in predicting complicated appendicitis.

Conclusion: Hyperbilirubinemia is a more specific predictor of complicated appendicitis and also an indirect predictor of prolonged hospital stay, morbidity and cost of the procedure.

Biography

Kishore V M K Gottapu has done his Master of Surgery in 2003 from Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) Chandigarh, India. He obtained membership and CCBST from Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh. He did fellowships in Vascular Surgery and Minimal Access Surgery. He is currently working as Assistant Professor, Alluri Sitaramaraju Academy of Medical Sciences. He is also a Visiting Consultant Surgeon, Division of Minimal Access Surgery, Bhimavaram, India. He is very keen to participate in ongoing research in the field of surgery, hopefully making a meaningful contribution.

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