

COAGULATION PROFILE IN SEVERE FALCIPARUM MALARIA AND ITS CLINICAL CORRELATION

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study is to evaluate the coagulation disorders in patients with falciparum malaria and to establish a probable pathogenesis. A total 91 adult falciparum malaria patients were selected which got confirmed by peripheral smear examination/ QBC. The complicated malaria accounted for 43%. Complete blood count and coagulation profile (platelet count, PT, aPTT, BT, CT) were done immediately on admission & repeated after 6-8 hrs. Repeat platelet counts were done in subjects with marked thrombocytopenia until normal or near normal values were reached. Thrombocytopenia was found in 73.6% (n=67) of patients, but only 8.79% (n=8) cases presented with bleeding manifestations. In 6.59% (n=6) of cases, the PT, aPTT, FDP was found to be prolonged which belonged to the cases with bleeding manifestations. Hematological changes were mild in the first 24 hours, but continued to deteriorate for few days after anti-malarial therapy. *P. falciparum* infection was associated with severe hematologic abnormalities, disseminated intravascular coagulopathy. So regular follow up of blood cells and platelets are of utmost importance particularly in cases infected with *P. falciparum* infections.

KEYWORDS: Falciparum, Malaria, Thrombocytopenia