

# **SOURCE OF INFECTION IN PATIENTS WITH SEPSIS ADMITTED IN ACUTE MEDICAL CARE UNIT**

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## **ABSTRACT**

**Introduction:** Sepsis is the leading cause of mortality in acute medical care (AMC) units. Outcome mainly depends on proper empirical antibiotic therapy which in turn primarily based on the detection of primary focus of infection. The present study is undertaken to study the foci of sepsis and the microbial profile in adult patients in the AMC units.

**Methods & Materials:** The patient population included adult patients admitted in AMC with diagnosis of sepsis during one year period from Aug-2010 to July-2011; patients with systemic inflammatory response syndrome with no evidence of infection and nosocomial sepsis were excluded from the study. Blood samples and the samples from suspected primary foci were collected before the start of empirical antibiotic therapy for culture & sensitivity. Definitive etiological diagnosis was made after the isolation of the micro-organisms from the blood and for local site of infection.

**Results:** During the study period, 136 patients fulfilled the inclusion & exclusion criteria and were included into the study. 70% of patients were males with female to male ratio of 1:2.3 and mean age of 56.5years. Incidence of sepsis was more in patients aged above 40 years. Co-morbid conditions were found in 62% of cases; they were diabetes, hypertension, chronic renal failure, and carcinoma and liver disorders. The commonest source of sepsis was respiratory tract followed by urinary tract.

**Conclusions:** Respiratory tract infections are common source of infections with gram negative organisms being the frequent isolates from culture.

**KEYWORDS:** Acute Medical Care Units, Focus of Sepsis