



Percutaneous Aspiration Versus Pigtail Catheter Drainage in Management Of Liver Abscess

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I. INTRODUCTION

Liver abscess is a common disease in the differential diagnosis of upper abdominal and right lower respiratory tract diseases. Even with the advent of good diagnostic investigation like USG, the diagnosis is still delayed because of the nonspecific manifestations of disease. The traditional therapy of intra-abdominal liver abscess has been operative drainage as originally described by Volkmann in 1879. The reduction in mortality from 90% at the turn of century to the estimated 10-20% today cannot be ascribed to surgery alone.

Patient Inclusion Criteria:

Including all patients at GK General hospital under the given study. Age 8- 70 years.

Single and approachable abscess on basis of ultrasonography.

Abscess > 5cm on USG.

Patients who were ready for percutaneous aspiration and pigtail catheter drainage

During the last few years, the radiological techniques namely computed tomography (CT) and

ultrasonography (USG) has helped in localization of these abscesses and their safe aspiration and drainage. Currently, there are 2 alternative methods for drainage of pus from a large liver abscess. This study aims to compare the therapeutic effectiveness and safety of 'Percutaneous continuous catheter drainage' versus 'Percutaneous intermittent needle aspiration' in the percutaneous group of treatments for liver abscesses.

Exclusion Criteria:

Patient's age < 8 years and > 70 years. Multiple abscess.

Abscess size < 5cm on USG which were managed conservatively.

Abscesses that were amenable to only surgical drainage (SD), like rupture or concomitant surgical pathology requiring urgent surgical exploration

Method & Materials:

Study design

In the present prospective comparative study, 30 patients were selected from L.G. HOSPITAL, Ahmedabad. Study was conducted during the period from JULY 2018 to JANUARY 2019.

A total of 30 patients with liver abscess were enrolled and randomized into two groups.

All patients had USG done at the time of admission. All patients were given Inj. Ceftriaxone 1gm IV 12 hourly, Inj. Amikacin 500mg IV 12 hourly, Inj. Metronidazole 400mg IV 8 hourly and Inj. Vitamin K.

Two groups:

Group A (total patients: 15) treated with antibiotic drugs with USG guided needle aspiration on the day of admission.

Group B (total patients: 15) treated with antibiotic drugs with pigtail insertion.

Patients were examined daily for body temperature, pain and tenderness,

Laboratory and radiological workup was done as and when required.

Cure was defined as improvement clinically with subsidence of fever, and local signs, symptoms, decrease in WBC count and if follow-up ultrasonography showed reduction and no evidence of relapses.

Data Collection & Evaluation:

Patient data was collected from indoor case papers.

The patients were evaluated and followed up according to the protocol.

Detailed history of patient.

Complete Blood Count, random blood sugar, LFT, RFT, Prothrombin time and Chest X-ray were done immediately on presentation.

Preliminary Ultrasound of Abdomen and Pelvis



was done on the same day of presentation. Follow-up USG done in all patients on day 3, 7, 21 & then as & when required afterwards. Complete blood count was repeated after 48 hours in all patients. LFT, PT were repeated after 48 hours in cases of abnormal preliminary reports. Patient was informed about any intervention required and consent taken.

Patient data collected regarding: Age, gender, complaints, past-surgical history, past history of liver abscess, history of alcoholism, diabetes, any immunodeficiency states, any history of biliary tract disorder history of amoebic dysentery & jaundice was taken. Patients were examined in detail. Blood and radiological investigations performed were recorded.

Follow-up: Patients were followed up for a minimum period of 6 months: Once a week for one month Monthly for first 3 months Once after 3 months, for recurrent attacks.

Abscess from right lobe of liver.



Showing USG guided percutaneous aspiration (Anchovy sauce pus) from 9th intercostal space between anterior and posterior axillary lines (Right lobe Amebic liver abscess)



Figure(a)



Figure(b)

Fig: (a) and (b) Showing USG guided percutaneous aspiration (creamy white pus) of Pyogenic Liver



	GROUP A		GROUP B	
	Reduction in Abscess size in% (Original size 5cm - 7cm)	Reduction in Abscess size in% (Original size 7cm - 10cm)	Reduction in Abscess size in% (Original size 5cm - 7cm)	Reduction in Abscess size in% (Original size 7cm - 10cm)
USG ON DAY 7	66%	50%	66%	50%
USG ON DAY 21	90%	77%	95%	94%

Pigtail Catheter Drainage instruments with guide-wire, introducer and connector



II. RESULT:

Total 30 patients of liver abscess were included in the study. Patients randomised into two groups: group A (total no patients 15) treated with antibiotic plus USG guided aspiration & group B (total no patients 15) treated with antibiotic with pigtail catheter insertion. Followup after initiation of therapy revealed normalization of body temperature in all patients within 6 days in both groups. Likewise, abdominal pain disappeared in 95% of patients within 5 days. Liver tenderness disappeared in 100 percent patients in both cases. Subsequently all patients were free of fever, pain and tenderness on day 7. Likewise, the laboratory parameters improved in all patients by 7th day. By day 21, USG showed decreased size of abscess cavity in all patients. But residual cavity size was reduced more in group B; especially with original abscess cavity size of 7 cm or more. Comparison between both groups for reduction in size of abscess on day 7 & day 21 is shown in table below.

	GROUP A		GROUP B	
	Reduction in Abscess size in %	Reduction in Abscess size in %	Reduction in Abscess size in %	Reduction in Abscess size in %
	(Original size 5cm - 7cm)	(Original size 7cm - 10cm)	(Original size 5cm - 7cm)	(Original size 7cm - 10cm)
USG ON DAY 7	65%	50%	60%	50%
USG ON DAY 21	90%	75%	95%	92%

III. OBSERVATION & DISCUSSION:

AGE GROUP	NO. OF PATIENTS	PERCENTAGE
<20	3	10
21-30	5	16.66
31-40	6	20
41-50	11	36.66
51-60	4	13.33
61-70	1	3.33
total	30	100

The present study shows higher incidence of liver abscess in males 27 patients (90%) than 3 females (10%) with a male:female ratio of 9:1.

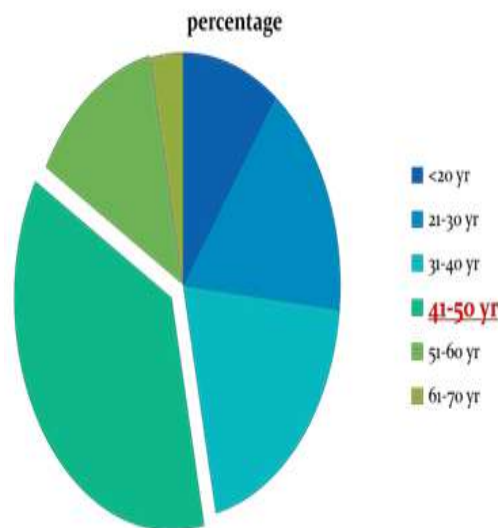
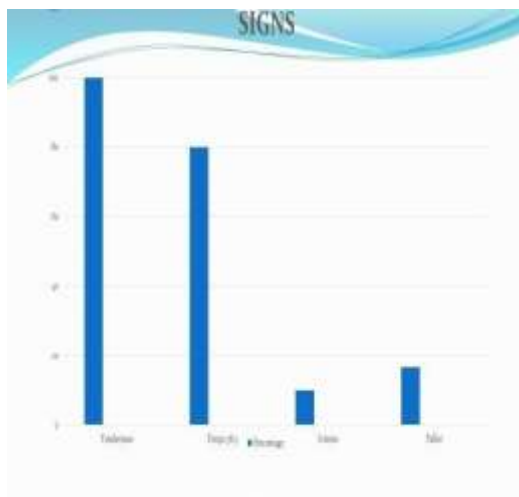


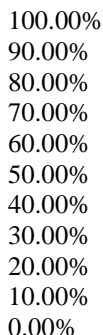
Fig: Showing 150 cc of Anchovy sauce collection in theorobag draining the Liver Abscess



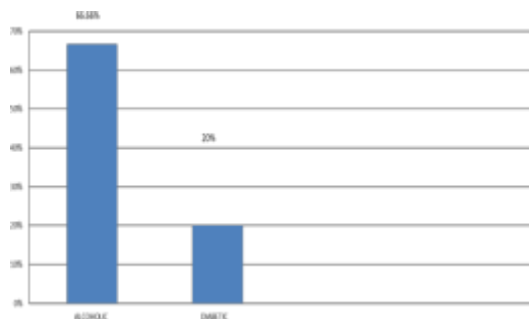
Associated Factors:

The present study shows higher incidence of liver abscess in males 27 patients (90%) than 3 females (10%) with a male:female ratio of 9:1.

SYMPTOMS



Percentage



Blood Investigations:

Anemia (Hb < 10 gm/dl) was found in 13.33% of the cases. The Hb% of the patients ranged from 6.4 - 15.1 gm%.

Leucocytosis (> 10,000/mm³) was found in 80% of cases. Hyperbilirubinemia with serum bilirubin > 1.5 mg/dl was found in 36% of the cases in this study.

The liver function test which was most consistently

raised was alkaline phosphatase. Alkaline phosphatase was found to be raised in 68% of cases in this study.

Elevated prothrombin time was seen in 48% of cases.

Chest X-RAY Findings:

Findings	No. of patients	%
Normal	18	72
Abnormal	7	28
Right Pleural Effusion	4	16
Bilateral Pleural Effusion	3	12

On Ultrasonography, the size of liver abscess on presentation ranged from 100cc to 360 cc. USG was done on the day of admission and then repeated on day 3, 7, 21.

Volume of the abscess was calculated after measuring the abscess cavity in three dimensions and applying the formula used by Rajak et al [1] in their study.

Volume = 0.523 * A * B * C where A, B and C are three dimensions.

IV. CONCLUSION:

Image based percutaneous treatment (aspiration or catheter drainage) has replaced surgical intervention as the procedure of choice.

If performed carefully, both the procedures are safe with minimal complications.

Percutaneous catheter drainage is a better modality as compared to percutaneous needle aspiration.

Each repeated aspiration improved the success of treatment by percutaneous needle aspiration.

Significantly earlier clinical improvement and less time for 50% reduction in abscess cavity in the percutaneous catheter drainage group.

The chances of failure of percutaneous needle aspiration increased with the increase in size of abscess cavity to be aspirated (p=0.011)

Hospital stay was reduced in drainage by pigtail catheter as the resolution of cavity was earlier and quicker compared to repeated aspirations.

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