

Drug sensitivity pattern of microorganisms in infected wounds at TUTH

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Introduction: The spread of antibiotic resistance and the appearance of multiple antibiotic resistant pathogens have been recognized by the WHO as a serious problem that complicates medical treatment of bacterial infections. Present study is a retrospective study from 15 June to 15 December 2004, which includes 1379 pus samples.

Methods: Culture and sensitivity testing for pus samples was done using standard Microbiological protocol in TUTH microbiology laboratory.

Results: We found that *Staphylococcus aureus* is the commonest isolate (57.25) followed by *E. coli* (15.61). The most effective antibiotic in-vitro for *Staphylococcus aureus* is Cloxacillin (87.0) followed closely by Erythromycin (81.8). In *E. coli*, the most effective antibiotics was Amikacin (77.88). *Pseudomonas* was isolated in only in (5.83) cases. The most effective antibiotic in vitro was Amikacin (47.22) and Ciprofloxacin (47.22) followed by Gentamycin (32.6).

Conclusion: With rampant antibiotic use, the drugs become resistant of which the clinicians may not be aware. Similarly, the organism pattern may differ in different hospitals. So, we believe that such regular update to our clinicians will help them use appropriate antibiotics, as they will be aware of the prevalent organism and the most effective antibiotic to it.

Key words: Drug sensitivity pattern, antibiotic resistance

Introduction

The antibiotic resistance problem is global, confronting communities and nations worldwide¹. The cost of antibiotic resistance continues to rise, and is a serious threat to the treatment of infectious diseases². Present study is continuation of surveillance we are doing every 6 months to monitor drug resistance and to guide empirical drug treatment in TUTH.

Aims and objectives

Our aim was to find out antibiotic sensitivity pattern of bacterial isolates of pus samples.

Material and methods

This study was done in Dept. of Clinical Microbiology with help of Surgery Dept. This is a retrospective study done for 6 months from 15th June to 15th December. Total 1379 pus samples (out patient and admitted patients) were included and processed in Microbiology Dept. using standard microbiology protocols.

Results

Out of 1379 pus samples, 745 samples did not show growth of bacteria. Among 634 samples which showed bacterial

growth *Staphylococcus* was the commonest isolate followed by *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella* species and *Pseudomonas* species. Few samples had more than one bacterial isolate (Table 1).

Table 1. Bacterial isolates

Bacterial Isolate	No. of Isolates	%
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	363	57.25
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	104	15.61
<i>Klebsiella</i> sp	50	7.88
<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp	37	5.83
<i>Acinetobacter</i> sp	12	1.89
<i>Citrobacter</i> sp	21	3.31
<i>Proteus</i> sp	21	3.31
<i>Providencia</i>	3	0.47
<i>Streptococcus</i> sp	7	1.1
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	20	3.15
<i>Serratia</i> sp	1	0.15

Staphylococcus was most common isolates accounting for 363 (57.25). Cloxacillin was most effective antibiotic in vitro

for *Staph. aureus* followed by Erythromycin (Table 2-5).

Table 2. Sensitivity Pattern of *Staphylococcus aureus*:

Antibiotics	% of sensitive <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
Cloxacillin	87.0
Ciprofloxacin	74.3
Erythromycin	81.8
Cephalexin	76.3
Ampicillin	32.5

Escherichia coli was second commonest isolate and in vitro Amikacin, was most effective antibiotic in vitro. (Table 3)

Table 3: Antibiotic Sensitivity Pattern of *Escherichia coli*

Antibiotics	% of sensitive <i>Escherichia coli</i>
Amikacin	77.88
Ciprofloxacin	40.42
Gentamycin	55.7
Cephalexin	28.8
Ampicillin	39.3
Cotrimoxazole	32.0

Table 4: Antibiotic Sensitivity Pattern of *Klebsiella sp.*

Antibiotics	% of sensitive <i>Klebsiella sp.</i>
Amikacin	58.0
Gentamycin	56.0
Ciprofloxacin	42.0
Cephalexin	24.0
Cotrimoxazole	17.3

Table 5: Antibiotic Sensitivity Pattern of *Pseudomonas sp.*

Antibiotics	% of sensitive <i>Pseudomonas sp.</i>
Amikacin	47.22
Ciprofloxacin	47.22
Gentamycin	32.6

Discussion

Scientists and health professionals agree that decreasing the incidence of antimicrobial resistance will require improve system for monitoring outbreaks of drug resistant infections and a more judicious use of antimicrobial drugs. In our study *Staphylococcus aureus* was most common organism (57.25) followed by *Escherichia coli* (15.61). This is same as our previous study (Baishak to Ashwin)³. Most effective antibiotic for *Staphylococcus aureus* is Cloxacillin (87)

followed by Erythromycin (81.8) in our study. In a study done in north Lebanon 70% of *Staphylococcus aureus* strains were sensitive to Cloxacillin and 87% strains were sensitive to Erythromycin⁴ where as in our study only 81.8 *Staph. aureus* strains were sensitive to Erythromycin. Ampicillin was only effective for 32.5% of isolates in our study. Ampicillin is very frequently used in clinical practice even without prescription, may be this is the cause of reduced effectiveness of the drug. For *Escherichia coli* Amikacin was very effective in vitro. For other gram negative bacilli Amikacin were very effective (80%-90%). Ciprofloxacin was effective for around 50-60% of gram-negative bacteria.

Conclusion

Drug resistant microorganisms those that are not killed or inhibited by antimicrobial compounds are an increasingly important public health concern. The innate adaptability of microbes is complemented by the widespread and sometimes inappropriate use of antibiotics. Educational projects for physicians and patients should be emphasized. Antibiotic use must improve so as to preserve efficacy of the drugs we have. The surveillance data should be disseminated effectively, so that it can be used to guide empirical antibiotic therapy and to monitor antibiotic resistance.

References

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