

ETIOLOGICAL STUDY OF CHRONIC OSTEOMYELITIS IN KARACHI

Pages with reference to book, From 24 To 24

Sir,

We read with great interest the study "Bacteriological Studies in Osteomyelitis at Faisalabad" published in Feb. '88 issue of JPMA. Of 80 cases reported, E. Coli was the commonest infecting organism (37.5%) and none of the cultures showed mixed infection. We conducted a similar study on 125 cases of chronic osteomyelitis at Karachi in collaboration with the orthopaedic department II of Civil Hospital Karachi; few cases from Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Center and Sind Govt. Hospital Liaquatabad were also included. Majority of the patients belonged to 11-30 years age group; with more predominance of males and more involvement of femur and tibia. Of 125 cases single pure culture was isolated from 89.5% and mixed from 8.8%. No growth was found in 2 cases. E. Coli was the single commonest infecting organism (68.6%) followed by staph. pyogenes (7.4%) and pseudomonas aeruginosa (6.7%). Comparison is done between the bacteria isolated in the present study and that reported from Faisalabad (Table). It is interesting to note that usually gram positive bacteria were isolated from cases in whom haematogenous spread was the likely cause, while in open fractures and wounds, usually gram negative organisms were isolated, along with mixed infection in few cases. We think that apart from blood agar, MacConkey agar, chocolate agar and thioglycolate medium (anaerobic culture) should be used for isolation of organisms.

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REFERENCE

1. Farooq, U., Ahmed, I.F. Bacteriological studies in Osteomyelitis at Faisalabad. JPMA., 1988;38:43.