

ABO AND A SUBGROUPS IN KARACHI POPULATION

Pages with reference to book, From 199 To 200

Sir,

An individual's blood group today, is as important as the national identity card. The obvious reason being blood transfusion in cases of emergency. Blood group data of a population is also important from a laboratory viewpoint, since it guides blood banks on number and types of blood to be stored for transfusion services. ABO group data is well established in Pakistan¹⁻², however A sub-group data is not available at least for Karachi population, since antisera for A sub-groups have recently become available in Pakistan. We report ABO and A subgroups in Karachi population from tests done on 1500 individuals.

The overall ABO and Rhesus frequency is given in Table 1.

Table 1. ABO and Rhesus Frequency in Karachi.

	Groups					
	A	B	AB	O	RH+ve	RH ⁻ ve
Frequency %	23.5	36.5	10	30	93	07
	A1	A2	A1B	A2B		
Frequency %	22	1.5	8	2		

This data is similar to frequency reported from Karachi¹ and Lahore².

ABO and A sub-groups for males and females in Rhesus positive and negative individuals are given in Table II.

Table II. ABO and A subgroups in Males and Females.

MALES									
Groups	A	A1	A2	B	AB	A1B	A2B	0	Rhesus
Frequency %	23	22	1.0	40	10.5	8.0	2.5	26.5	Positive
Frequency%	29.5	21	8.5	50	4.0	4.0	Nil	16.5	Negative
FEMALES									
Groups	A	A1	A2	B	AB	A1B	A2B	0	Rhesus
Frequency %	22	20.5	1.5	36	10	8	2	32	Positive
Frequency %	34	30	4	23	14.5	12.5	2	28.5	Negative

Our results for A sub-groups are similar to the frequencies reported from Lahore² and NWFP³. However the frequencies in males and females of the rhesus negative group is rather different from the overall and rhesus positive individuals. Since individuals of rhesus negative group are few in our population one needs a larger sample of this group to attach any significance to this finding. We report this data firstly to refresh old knowledge of ABO groups in our population and add A sub-groups to Karachi data and secondly to provide guideline to blood banks in Karachi for numbers and types of blood to be stored.

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