

A study of clinico-etiological profile of Diphtheria with special reference to complications & early outcome.

Dr. Bela Shah¹, Dr. Sonu Akhani^{2*}, Dr. Monika Solanki³

Abstract:

Background: Diphtheria is an acute disease caused by exotoxin-producing *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*. Globally, diphtheria has been showing a declining trend due to effective childhood vaccination programs. A substantial proportion of global burden of diphtheria is contributed by India. Diphtheria cases are frequent among school-going children and adolescents. **Objective:** This prospective study was conducted at civil hospital, Ahmedabad, a tertiary care hospital to study incidence, epidemiology and clinical presentation of diphtheria in children up to 12 years in special reference to arising complications associated with early outcome. **Materials and methods :** This retrospective observational study was carried out at civil hospital Ahmedabad in period of 01/09/2019 to 01/02/2020 including all patients admitted in paediatric department under age of 12 years who clinically diagnosed as case as per WHO case definition. **Results:** Out of total enrolled 56 cases, highest incidence found in children between 5 to 10 years of age (39.3%), more in female (53.6%). Unimmunized children (73.2%) were more as compared partially (8.9%) or immunized children (17.9%). Most common complication found was myocarditis (53.6%), followed by palatal palsy (16.1%) and renal failure (7.1%). **Conclusion :** Diphtheria is commonly affecting children between 5 to 10 years of age who are unimmunized which leads to most common complication of myocarditis. Diphtheria can be prevented by proper coverage of vaccines among children.

Key Words: Myocarditis, Unimmunized, Partially immunized.

Authors:-

¹Professor & Head of Unit, ²Assistant Professor, ³Third year resident, Department of Pediatrics, B. J. Medical College, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India.

* Corresponding Author:-

Dr. Sonu Akhani
Email: dr.sonuakhani@gmail.com