Prevalence of urinary tract infections (utis) among pregnant women attending antenatal clinic at ile –ife, south-western Nigeria

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Abstract

Asymptomatic urinary tract infections resulting from poor diagnosis in pregnant women poses a serious threat of complications during pregnancy. This study reports the prevalence of Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs) and the bacteriological causative agents among pregnant women attending antenatal clinics at a Tertiary Care Hospital in Ile Ife, South western Nigeria. 335 mid-stream clean catch urine samples were collected from pregnant women and cultured for the presence of bacterial pathogens. All the isolates were subjected to antibiotic sensitivity testing on Mueller Hinton agar by modified Kirby-bauer disk diffusion technique using CLSI, guidelines. Data were analyzed using SPSS for Windows version 16. A total of 190 showed significant bacterial growth while 145 showed no significant bacterial growth. Bacterial agents isolated included Escherichia coli showing the highest occurrence of [60(31.5%)] followed by Klebsiella spp and Staphylococcus aureus with prevalences of [49(25.7%)] and [32(16.8%) respectively. Other organisms implicated are Proteus mirabilis [20(10.5%), Coagulase Negative Staphylococci [24(12.3%) and Pseudomonas aeruginosa with the least prevalence of [5(2.6%). Resistant to antibiotics such as amoxycilin 64%, gentamicin 52.6%, erythromycin 62.5%, ceftazidime 69%, cefotaxime 74%, ceftriaxone 79.6% while a high sensitivity to tetracycline (88.5%), nitrofurantoin (96.3%), imipenem (100%) respectively. This study indicated a high prevalence of UTIs (56.7%) in pregnant women though most of them showed no clinical manifestation. Therefore, urine microbial screening should be included in the routine antenatal checkups for pregnant women to detect the asymptomatic infections to reduce its risk to pregnancies.

Key words: Bacteria, pathogens, antibiotics sensitivity, resistance, urinary tract infection.