Research Article

Retrospective study of MLC's in tertiary care centre in Nagpur during last one and half year

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Abstract

Retrospective study of MLC cases admitted in paediatrics ward was done for period of 18 months. All cases were accidental MLC .Major share was poisoning and animal biting and most cases were under 5 years .Mortality was about 11%

Keywords: Accidental cases, poisoning, snake bite and parental education for prevention.

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INTRODUCTION

The process of providing emergency care is a difficult one in paediatric emergency care, this process is complicated by a host of factors, including special legal considerations. Basically, there are three categories of medico legal cases:

1. Accidental
2. Suicidal
3. Homicidal

Almost all cases in paediatrics constitutes accidental, suicidal and homicidal cases are negligible. Whatever the nature of case, every hospital (Government-run or privately-owned) is under a legal obligation to treat to best possible extent and no case can be turned away on the pretext that the hospital concerned is not authorized to handle medico legal case. (Supreme Court, 1989). These cases are though mortality 10.97%, but are potential source of morbidity in children. Changing lifestyles use of newer pharmaceutical, chemical agent's modern technologies changed the pattern of MLC cases. Therefore there is need to update the knowledge about medico legal cases and trends.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A retrospective study of MLC cases below 12 years of age during last one and half year admitted to paediatric wards in GMC Nagpur was done (Jan2014 to June 2015). Detail history examination investigations were noted and also outcome of cases recoded. The data thus collected is analysed to get spectrum of MLC cases and their outcome.

OBSERVATION AND RESULTS

Table 1

MLC	Males	Female	Total
0-5 years	27	27	54
5- 12yrs	17	11	28
Total	**44**	**38**	**82**

Table 2

	Number	Percentage	Death%
Poisoning	50	60	4.87
Bites	22	27	2.45
Others	10	13	3.65
Total	**82**	**100**	**10.97**

Table 3

	Number	Percentage
Kerosene poisoning and diseal poisoning	13	26
Medicinal compound poisoning	6	12
Chandrajyoti and other sed poisoning	6	12
Camphor poisoning	4	8
Insecticide	3	6
Unknown poisoning	18	36

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Table 4

Animal/insect	Number	Percentage
Scorpion bite= 2	2	9
Dogbite	4	18
Snake bite	10	46
Unknown bite	6	27
Total	**22**	**100**

Table 5

Type	Number	Percentage
Drowning=1	1	10
Head trauma= 2	2	20
Electric shock injury = 3	3	30
Foreign body ingestion =4	4	40
Total	**10**	**100**

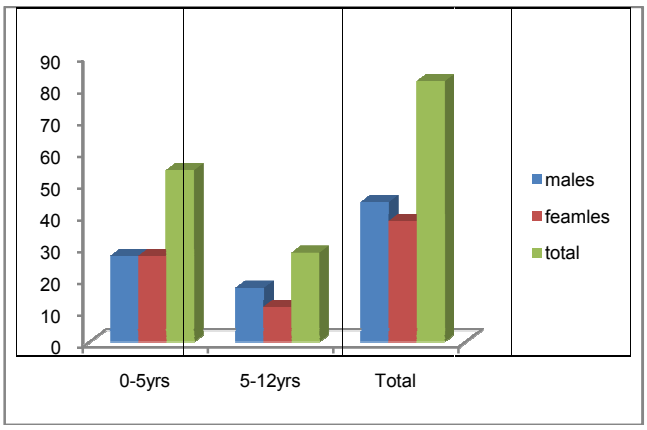


Figure 1

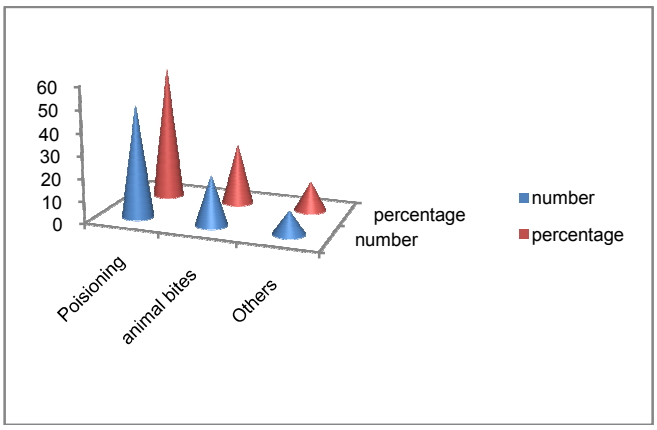
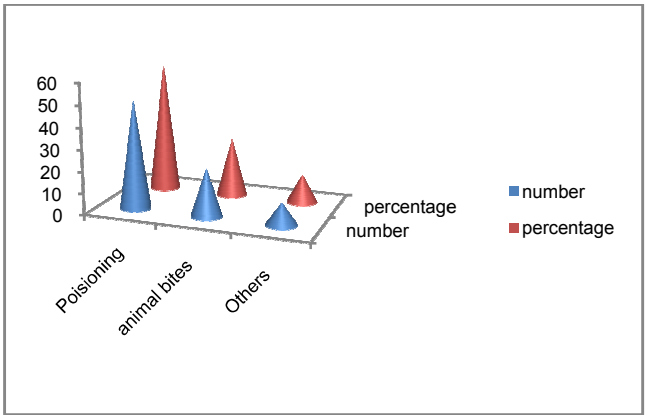


Figure 2



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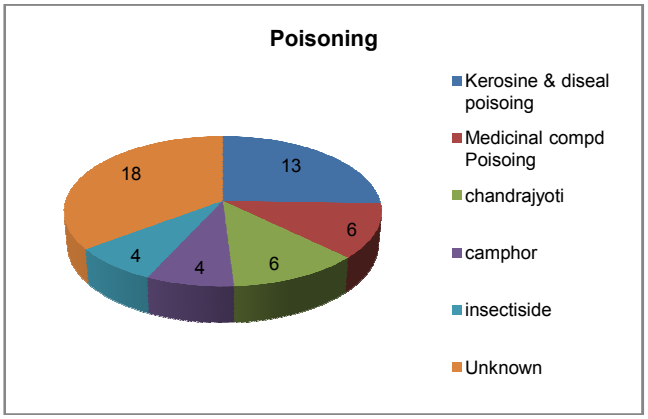

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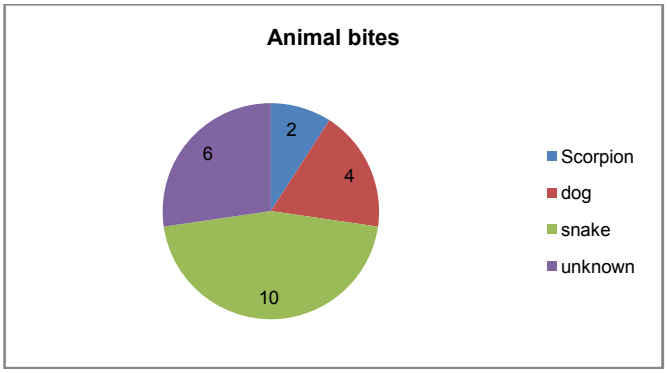

Figure 5

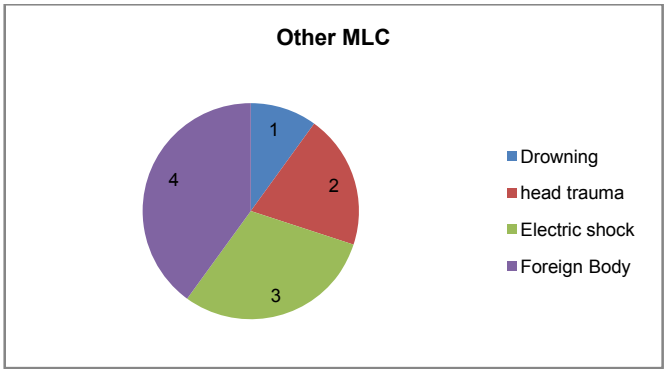

Figure 6

DISCUSSION

The medico legal cases admitted in paediatrics wards in this study were of accidental poisoning animal bites and electric shock. As such no data is available on consolidated as medico legal cases but incidence in different studies of the cases (accidental poisoning) coming under MLC case varies from 1 to 12%[1-6]. The incidence in present study is 1.82% seems similar to many studies conducted mainly on cases of accidental poisoning comparable to other studies even all MLC cases are included in study. Many similar studies represented similar trends. Studies in different part of world describes regional trends. There were ~65% children below 5years of age no gender preponderance Common MLC case were poisoning and common poisoning was kerosene as in other Indian studies other being drugs and insecticide, most of families kept these kerosene in soft drink bottle that might have tempted children to drink. Many parents tried to induce vomiting after consumption due to lack of knowledge but none had complications. Organophosphorus poising was found this study but incidence was less may due to availability of other alternatives of OP compound to kill insect's rats and mosquitoes in urban areas like laxmanrekhas mosquito mates. Declining trends of dhatura and chandrajyoti seeds poising noted. There is need to educate parents to keep poisonous products in LOCKED cabinet and not to store kerosene in soft drink bottle. Also parents should know not to induce vomiting. Many products have label for 1st aid in case of accidental poisoning but more stress is to be given so it is also in clear and easy format. No mortality was reported in poisoning Most cases were of snake bites in category of animal bites category. Other MLC cases were of drowning electric shock FB ingestion and head trauma comparable study in Indian pretext is not available. Apart from routine care of children's, proper wiring is for the safer homes is suggested most cases of electric shock were in summer from air cooler. Even sites of entry wound suggested faulty wiring in 2 cases out of 3. Overall mortality in Indian studies of common poisoning is 0.64 to 11.6 %. Mortality is present study is which is mostly due to snake bites comparable to other studies envenomentation has been reported to from high fraction of poisoning death in other study also. The limitation of index and retrospective study with less number of cases and set up in tertiary care hospital. Spectrum may be different in community. However it gives usual information recent pattern of childhood MLC cases specially of poisoning.

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