Hematological Profile In Cases Of Chronic Renal Diseases.

Pranami Dewan1, Nanda Patil2, Mamta Bharti3

1Undergraduate II MBBS student  
2Professor, Department of Pathology  
3Tutor, Department of Pathology  

Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, Karad, Maharashtra

I. Introduction

The incidence and prevalence of chronic renal disease is increasing worldwide. The incidence of new end stage renal disease in India is 100 per million population per year (Gedela1). In India Diabetes mellitus, hypertension, glomerulonephritis and chronic interstitial nephritis are the leading causes of chronic kidney diseases. The hematological profile has a major impact on the quality of life of patients with chronic renal disease. Anemia is seen consistently in these patients contributing morbidity and mortality. Leucocyte and platelet disorder have also been described in cases of renal failure. Managing these co-morbid conditions can improve the quality of life in these cases. The present study was done to assess hematological parameters in case of chronic renal disease in a tertiary care hospital.

II. Objective

To study the hematological parameters in cases of chronic renal disease.

III. Material and Method

A descriptive study was carried out over a period of two months (August-September) in 2016 to evaluate the hematological changes in patients of chronic renal disease. The study was carried out after ethical clearance from the institute. The cases of chronic renal disease referred to our institute irrespective of age and sex were included in the study. The cases subjected to hemodialysis and renal transplant were excluded. Detail clinical history of patients was collected and after informed consent blood samples were taken for hematological and biochemical tests including hemoglobin estimation total and differential leucocyte count, platelet count, hematological indices and blood urea and creatinine levels.

IV. Results

The study included a total of 32 cases with chronic renal disease, the age group ranged from 29 to 75 years. Majority of cases (10 cases- 31.25%) were in the age group of 70 to 80 years the mean age being 58 years. Amongst total 32 cases, 27 cases (84.37%) were male patients while 15.62% that is, 5 cases were female. Male is to female ratio being 5.4:1. All these cases revealed increased level of blood urea level that ranged from 61 to 490 mg/dl. The creatinine values were also raised in all these cases which ranged from 3.4mg/dl to 11.3mg/dl.

The etiology of chronic renal failure was type-II diabetes mellitus 8 cases (25%) obstructive uropathy 5 cases (15.62%), hypertension 3 cases (9.37%) and renal tuberculosis and use of NSAID in 1 case each (3.125%) and in remaining 14 cases etiology was not known.

Table 1: The diseases related to chronic renal failure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diseases</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type II Diabetes</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstructive uropathy</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal Tuberculosis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.125%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSAID</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.125%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No definite etiology</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>43.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hematological profile in cases of chronic renal disease. Anemia was seen in all of CRF patients. The hemoglobin level ranged from 4.9 gm/dl to 11.4gm/dl, the mean hemoglobin value was 8.7gm/dl. Majority of cases (16 cases- 50%) presented with moderate anemia. Peripheral blood smear and hematological indices in these cases revealed normocytic normochromic blood picture in 31 cases (96.87%) and macrocytic anemia in 1 case (3.12%). Total leukocyte count in these cases ranged from 4800 to 21,600/cmm.
Normal total and differential WBC count was seen in majority of cases (28 cases i.e. 87.5%). Four cases (12.5%) revealed increased WBC count and neutrophilia. Amongst these two cases each were having septicemia and pneumonia. Platelet count was normal in 24 cases (75%) of chronic renal failure. While 6 cases (18.75%) revealed thrombocytopenia. Platelet count was increased in 2 cases (6.2%). None of these cases presented with bleeding manifestation.

![Figure 1: Distribution of platelet count in cases of CRF](image)

V. Discussion

The hematological parameters were analyzed in 32 cases of chronic renal disease. All these cases revealed increased levels of blood urea and creatinine levels. Increased serum creatinine levels in cases of CRF are due to its reduced clearance. Serum creatinine levels are used as a diagnostic test to assess renal function and the levels more than 1.5 mg/dl indicate impairment of renal function.6

Majority of the cases were in the age group of 70-80 years, with male pre-dominance. Type II diabetes mellitus, hypertension and obstructive uropathy account for the renal failure in most of the cases. Our study also revealed type II diabetes mellitus, obstructive uropathy and hypertension in 50% of cases as a contributing cause of renal failure. Anemia was seen in all the patients of chronic renal disease in the present study. Moderate anemia was the commonest feature. Normocytic normochromic RBC picture was seen in most cases. Total and differential WBC count is not significantly altered in cases of chronic renal failure. Though platelet count is not significantly altered, thrombocytopenia can be observed in few cases of chronic renal failure. Anemia is seen in all patients with CRF.6 The association of anemia with renal failure was first noted by Richard Bright in 1936.7 The severity of anemia increases with severity of disease.8 There are three factors involved in the pathogenesis of anemia in cases which are deficiency of erythropoietin, shortened red cells survival and suppression of erythropoiesis.

In patients of chronic renal failure renal symptoms remain subtle in most of the cases and the presenting features are only symptoms of anemia.9 Management of anemia in these cases improves the quality of life.9 Chronic renal disease is associated with increased susceptibility to infections as seen in our study. Many studies have shown that leukocyte chemotaxis is impaired in uremia. Platelet count varies in chronic renal disease. Also, altered platelet function with coagulation abnormalities are known.10 Our study also revealed thrombocytopenia in 18.75% cases.

VI. Conclusion

Patients with chronic renal failure show abnormal hematological parameters. The commonest of which is anemia. The anemia in CRF is normocytic normochromic and of moderate degree in most of the cases. Total and differential WBC count is not significantly altered in cases of CRF but few cases present with thrombocytopenia. However, a future study with larger sample size recommended.
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References


[7]. Singh NP, Agarwal L, Singh T. Anemia, iron studies and erythropoietin in patients of chronic renal failure. JAPI 1999;47(3):284-9

