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A STUDY OF THE LEVELS OF BILIARY AND SERUM CEA, CA 19-9, AFP AND AMYLASE IN PATIENTS WITH HEPATOBILLIARY MALIGNANCIES AND CORRELATION WITH GRADE AND STAGE OF TUMOR

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OBJECTIVES

To assess utility of biliary and serum CEA, CA 19-9, AFP and Amylase in screening and prognostication of patients with hepatobiliary malignancies and to study the correlation between the above markers and the grade and stage of hepatobiliary malignancy.

METHODOLOGY

All patients with suspected hepatobiliary malignancy were subjected to biochemical, radiological and endoscopic evaluation for assessment of operability. All operable patients were subjected to a diagnostic laparoscopy to exclude peritoneal metastatic disease before being subjected to a formal exploratory laparotomy and trial of resection. Ten ml of bile was collected intraoperatively from the proximal dilated bile duct and sample was sent for CA19-9, CEA, AFP and amylase assay. Postoperatively, the histopathology reports were collected and correlated with other variables.

RESULTS

Of the 30 patients included in this study, 19 had periampullary tumours, 5 had carcinoma head of pancreas, 3 had gall bladder cancer, 2 had ampullary carcinoma and 1 had pancreatic endocrine cancer. There was positive correlation between serum and biliary levels of CA 19-9. No correlation was found between CA 19-9, CEA, AFP and Amylase and staging & grades of malignancy.

CONCLUSION

Till a very specific marker for each subset of the wide array of hepatobiliary tumors is discovered and put into clinical practice, there is no advantage of studying its correlation with the grade and stage of the malignancy.