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PREVALENCE OF ROTA VIRUS INFECTION IN CHILDREN LESS THAN TWO YEARS PRESENTING WITH DIARRHOEA

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OBJECTIVES

1. To determine the prevalence of rotavirus infection in children upto two years presenting with diarrhoea
2. To describe the clinical profile and factors affecting rotavirus infection in these children

METHODOLOGY

It was a descriptive study over 18 months period. The study population comprised of consecutive children less than two years reporting to the hospital with diarrhea. In addition to a detailed history and examination recorded in a pre-designed proforma, the stool samples were taken and preserved at -20⁰ C. The stool samples were analysed for rota virus antigen by ELISA Kit by IVD Research Inc. Appropriate statistical tests namely Chi-square test and Fisher's exact test were used to analyze the data using SPSS 17.0 version software.

RESULTS

A total of 250 children with diarrhea were included in the study. In the study population, the male:female ratio was 0.97:1. 24% children presenting with diarrhea were positive for rotavirus. Only 10.4% of these children had severe dehydration. However 61.5% of children with severe dehydration were positive for rotavirus.

CONCLUSION

There was significant association between rotavirus positivity and severity of dehydration.