Colposcopy in Evaluation of Carcinoma Cervix

ABSTRACT

Background: Cervical cancer is one of the commonest cancers among females and is one of the major causes of mortality. The highest prevalence of cervical cancer in India is due to the lack of awareness for health care. If the healthcare providers can identify these high-risk women and counsel them for seeking medical care and providing health facilities to them, cervical cancer can be diagnosed in pre-invasive stage. Various methods have been used for screening out of which pap smear is one of the most commonly used methods. Other methods are VIA, VILI, colposcopy and biopsy. Colposcopy increases the early diagnosis of cervical cancer by visualisation under high magnification and also by taking biopsy from suspected area in the same seating.

Methods and Methods: Colposcopy was used in the evaluation of cervical carcinoma in 100 patients presented to O & G OPD in Hi-Tech Medical College and Hospitals, Bhubaneswar, with unhealthy cervix or having some risk factors of cervical cancer between the period from January 2014 to January 2015.

Results: The study was conducted on 100 cases in Hi-Tech Medical & Hospital with the features of unhealthy cervix and the results were analysed.

Conclusions: In this study, colposcopic examination done for cases with risk factors for cervical cancer and data analysed different appearances of colposcopy have its correlation with carcinoma cervix that needs to be studied in detail.

KEYWORDS: unhealthy cervix, colposcopy, biopsy, VIA

INTRODUCTION

Cervical cancer continues to be the most common genital cancer encountered in India accounting for 80% of females. According to WHO, in every 7 min, one woman dies of cervical cancer in India, which is still the tip of an iceberg. The concept of preinvasive disease of cervix that denotes the changes that are confined to cervical epithelial cells was introduced in 1947; Early detection of preinvasive disease and treatment of CIN has the potential to improve the outcome of patient. Unhealthy cervix is a chronic condition including cervical erosion, polyps, ectropion, cervicitis, ulcer, leukoplakia. Invasive cervical cancer is considered to be preventable since it is associated with the long preinvasive period making it amenable to screening and treatment. Poor hygiene, frequent childbirth reproductive age of women are at high risk of carcinoma cervix. Low socioeconomic class and poor literacy rate act as the barrier between women and health care facilities available. Different screening methods have been used. In this study, colposcopic appearances were studied in the evaluation of unhealthy cervix. Colposcopy is a different study that is found to be more specific that pap smear in the early diagnosis of cancer cervix.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Prospective clinical study conducted in 100 women in Hi-Tech Medical College & Hospital, Bhubaneswar. All patients attending to O & G OPD in 20–60 years age with the symptoms of profuse vaginal discharge, post-coital bleeding, post-menopausal bleeding, intermenstrual bleeding, or clinically unhealthy cervix diagnosed by speculum examination. Abnormal pap smears were taken in this study. They have been examined with colposcopy and the results were observed. Colposcopy includes examination under high-power magnification, under green filter, VIA, VILI, and if required biopsy was taken from the suspected areas. Normal colposcopic findings are original squamous epithelium, columnar epithelium, normal TZ (Table 1).
Abnormal findings in colposcopy are flat/dense aceto white epithelium, unstained areas on lugol’s iodine application, atypical vascular pattern on green filter like mosaic, punctuation, atypical branching pattern (Figs. 1–3).

RESULTS
Among the 100 cases studied, 29% (29/100) were diagnosed as colposcopically abnormal. Among the abnormal cases, AW areas were diagnosed in 17%. Punctate pattern of vessels was seen in 8% of women. And mosaic pattern of vessels was diagnosed in 4% of women. Normal findings were present in 3%, cervical erosion in 31%, inflammatory changes were seen in 16% and polyps were diagnosed in 5%, leucoplakia was found in 2% and unsatisfactory colposcopy finding was seen in 14%.

CONCLUSION
In this study, it has been shown that colposcopy may an important tool in the evaluation of cervical cancer. Different appearances of colposcopy have its correlation with carcinoma cervix that needs to be studied in detail.

REFERENCES