

Point Prevalence Survey on Antibiotic Use and Hospital Acquired Infections in a District General Hospital

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National antibiotic policy was introduced in 2016 to rationalize antibiotic use. This study shows preliminary data on current practices of antibiotic prescribing in a District General Hospital. The objective of the study was to describe the antibiotic prescription patterns in the hospital and to identify the prevalence of types of hospital acquired infections. A point prevalence survey was conducted in all wards at District General Hospital, Kalutara for one week. Percentage of patients on antibiotics, demographic data, types of antibiotics and indications were collected from patient records at the time of survey. Hospital acquired infection (HAI) rates were calculated per 1000 admissions. Total of 613 patients were surveyed, and 36 % (221/613) of them were on antibiotics. Adult intensive care unit (ICU) and post-operative wards had the highest rates of antibiotic use, 100% and 80.77% respectively. Commonest antibiotic used was co-amoxiclav, 25.7 % and the cabapenem use was 3.1%. Intravenous formulations were used in 68.4% of occasions. Of all patients on antibiotics, 53.8% were given for community acquired infections and 9.5% were given for HAI. In 32.4%, the indication for antibiotic use was not clear or antibiotics were used as prophylaxis. Overall HAI rate was 31.46 per 1000 admissions. Adult and neonatal intensive care units had the highest HAI rate of 333.3 and 173.9 per 1000 admissions. In conclusion antibiotic use is fairly high, and for nearly one third of patients, the indication was not clear or antibiotics were used as prophylaxis. Overall HAI rate was comparatively low in the hospital, but more extensive study is needed for confirmation.

Keywords: Antibiotic use, Hospital acquired infections