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Abstract

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Clinical Association between Gallstones and Peptic Ulcers



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ABSTRACT

Background: Gallstones are one of the significant health problems worldwide. Despite many cholelithiasis patients might have the symptoms that necessitate cholecystectomy, unfortunately, only 30% of symptomatic patients come to cholecystectomy. **Objective:** To assess the association of gallstones with peptic ulcer as a common surgical problem in Iraqi patients. **Patients and Methods:** A prospective study was conducted during the period between October 1998 & October 2000 included 68 Iraqi patients. All patients were routinely examined by abdominal U/S to assess the gallbladder & biliary tree status, all patients were examined by OGD. Elective cholecystectomy performed in 47 patients. Patient was excluded from the study if he/she had one or more of the following criteria; gastric surgery, history of vagotomy, upper G.I malignancy. **Results:** Thirteen patients (19.1%) had gallstones associated with peptic ulcer (group I) and 55 (80.9%) had gallstones not associated with peptic ulcer (group II). Females represented (84.6%) and (56.3%) of group I and II, respectively, ($P < 0.05$). Epigastric pain (atypical pain), right hypochondrial pain, night pain, hunger pain, vomiting, anorexia, smoking and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug intake were significantly more frequent in group I ($P < 0.05$). Duodenal ulcer and Antral congestion were the more frequent OGD finding in group I. Ultrasonography showed that (76.9%) of the patients in group I had multiple gallstones and only (3.6%) in group II, ($P < 0.05$) **Conclusions:** There is an association of an upper gastrointestinal lesion with biliary stones.



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