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Bacteriological profile of patients attending infertility clinic

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Statement of the Problem: Urogenital infection can play an important role in the etiology of infertility. Such infections may often go unnoticed but could hamper infertility. These infections may affect fertility in several ways: By damaging sperm, hampering their motility, altering the chemical composition of the seminal fluid or by producing an inflammatory structure in the tract. The purpose of this study was to identify the bacterial isolates by conventional methods in patients attending infertility clinic.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: A total of 250 semen samples and 150 cervical samples were examined. The samples were inoculated on blood agar plates containing 5% sheep blood agar and MacConkey's agar plates. The plates were incubated at 37 oC with 5% CO₂ for 24 hours and examined. Biochemical tests were used for identification and confirmation of the bacterial isolates.

Findings: In our study, bacterial isolates were seen in 112 (44.8%) of the 250 semen samples and 77 (51.33%) of 150 cervical samples examined. The major organisms isolated from semen samples were *Pseudomonas* sp. 41/250 (16.4%), *Escherichia coli* 29/250 (11.6%) and *Staphylococcus* sp. 24/250 (9.6%). The main organisms isolated from cervical samples were *Escherichia coli* 12/150 (8.00%), *Klebsiella* sp. 9/150 (6.00%) and *Acinetobacter* sp. 3/150 (2.00%).

Conclusion & Significance: It is necessary to determine not just the presence of bacteria but also their nature as well as numbers while evaluating an infertile patient. It would be worthwhile to screen routinely all patients for a possible silent urogenital tract infection attending infertility clinic and vigorously institute appropriate antibacterial therapy wherever indicated by significant culture.

Biography

Kanupriya Kusumakar is currently pursuing her MD in Microbiology from Maulana Azad Medical College, a premier institute under the University of Delhi in India. She has completed her MBBS from Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute in Bengaluru, India with a Gold Medal in Community Medicine. She is actively involved in various academic and research work at her institute and in teaching medical undergraduates.

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