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Determination of hematological parameters among HIV positive patients taking highly active anti-retroviral treatment and treatment naïve in the ART clinic of Gondar University Hospital, Gondar, Northwest Ethiopia

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Anemia, leucopenia and thrombocytopenia are the commonest hematological abnormalities resulting from human immunodeficiency virus infection. The use of antiretroviral drugs could positively or negatively affect these disorders. Thus this study aimed to compare hematological in HIV positive patients taking antiretroviral therapy and those treatment naïve patients in Gondar University Hospital. A comparative cross-sectional study was conducted on 145 HIV positive treatment naïve and 145 patients on HAART from February to May 2012. Socio-demographic and clinical characteristics of the study subjects were collected using structured pretested questionnaire at their follow up date. Hematological and immunological parameters were processed by cell Dyne 1800 and BD FACS count respectively. In order to compare means independent sample T-test was conducted using SPSS version 20 statistical software. P- Value<0.05 was considered as significant. Prevalence of anemia, leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, neutropenia and lymphopenia were 11.7%, 35.9%, 4.1%, 28.3% and 2.1% in patients on HAART and 29.7%, 16.6%, 9%, 14.5% and 2.1% in HAART naïve patients respectively. There was a significant difference in total WBC, RBC, Hgb, MCV, MCH, MCHC, MPV and CD4 counts between patients on HAART and HAART naïve patients. Prevalence of anemia was high in HAART naïve patients while leucopenia and neutropenia prevalence was higher in patients on HAART and their prevalence increased as the CD4 count decreased. HIV Patients should be investigated for hematological and immunological changes following with appropriate therapeutic interventions.

Biography

Bamlaku Enawgaw has completed his hematology specialization in 2012 from University of Gondar, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, Gondar, Ethiopia. He is a Lecturer at Department of Hematology under the School of Biomedical and Laboratory Sciences, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Gondar, Ethiopia. He has three publications and seven manuscripts under review in the field of hematology in reputable/international journals. He is a member of Ethiopian Medical Laboratory Association and Ethiopian Public Health Laboratory Association.

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