

# A Prospective Observational Study on Peritoneal Fluid Culture and Its Antibiotic Sensitivity in Perforation Peritonitis Cases

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## ABSTRACT

*AIM-To study peritoneal fluid culture and its antibiotics sensitivity in perforation peritonitis cases at SMS Hospital, Jaipur.*

*METHODS- patient presenting to the emergency department of SMS hospital,Jaipur with hollow viscous perforation ,above 14 years of age ,were planned for exploratory laparotomy and the peritoneal fluid collected was sent for microbial culture and sensitivity.*

*RESULTS- This study showed most common site of perforation as ileum, followed by stomach. The most common bacteria grown was E.coli followed by Klebsiella and Pseudomonas in order. Most of the organism were sensitive to Tigecycline followed by Imipenem and Amikacin and approximately 50% showed sensitivity to Piperacillin and Tazobactam.*

*CONCLUSION- This study showed that, micro-organism at SMS hospital are showing sensitivity to higher antibiotics like Tigecycline, Imipenem, and are resistant against commonly used antibiotics like Cephalosporin group of drugs, Ciprofloxacin, Ceftazidime, Cefepime, cotrimoxazole, cefotaxime, Ampicillin.*

## KEYWORDS

*Perforation peritonitis, peritoneal fluid culture, antibiotic sensitivity, Tigecycline, Imipenem, Amikacin*

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Peritonitis is a common emergency in surgical practice. Peritonitis can be classified as primary Peritonitis, due to haematogenous dissemination , secondary Peritonitis due to perforation or trauma and tertiary peritonitis due to persistent infection after adequate therapy(2). Secondary peritonitis is most common form of peritonitis(1). Patient presents with pain abdomen, vomiting, constipation, fever, abdominal distention and clinical signs like guarding, rigidity and tenderness can be elicited. Diagnostic modality used for perforation peritonitis cases are x-ray abdomen which shows gas under the diaphragm and ultrasound which shows presence of free air or fluid with altered echogenicity. Appropriate antibiotic therapy when adopted for secondary peritonitis cases can result in better patient outcome . Although selection of an appropriate agent can be challenging because of the emerging resistance of target organisms to commonly prescribe antibiotics (3) Understanding pathological and other microorganism pattern in case of secondary peritonitis is helpful in selecting appropriate antibiotic therapy.

## II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Detailed clinical history of the patient was taken. Clinical examination and relevant investigations like Hemoglobin, chest x-ray, ecg, abdominal x-ray were done and decision to operate was taken and midline laparotomy was done in such cases. The peritoneal fluid obtained on opening abdomen was sent for culture and sensitivity. Culture was done aerobically on MacConkey agar, blood Agar and chocolate Agar .The organism isolated was tested for antimicrobial sensitivity by using Kirby bauer disc diffusion method against following antibiotics, Ampicillin, Piperacillin+Tazobactam, Cefepime, Vancomycin, Gentamicin Doxycycline, Linezolid, Ciprofloxacin, Cotrimoxazole, Clindamycin , Cefoxitin, Teicoplanin, Erythromycin, Polymixin B, Tigecycline,

Imipenem, Aztreonam, Colistin, Amikacin, Ceftazidime, Cefotaxime, Cefoperazone+Sulbactam, Tobramycin, Minocycline, Meropenem, Ertapenem, Nitrofurantoin.

The study was approved by institutional research review board and ethics committee. This prospective study included patients admitted for secondary peritonitis from December 2021 to December 2022 at SMS Hospital Jaipur .Culture sensitivity analysis was done for peritoneal fluid obtained intra operatively. Clinicomicrobiological profile was analysed in patient with perforation peritonitis.

**Inclusion criteria and exclusion criteria**

**Inclusion criteria**

All diagnosed cases of perforation peritonitis involving any segment of gastrointestinal tract by any diagnostic modality (USG, CT-abdomen, X-ray abdomen) were included. Patient found to have perforation intraoperatively and have contamination fluid present were also included.

**Exclusion criteria**

Patient less than 14 years of age were excluded.

**III. Observation And Results**

**Age and gender distribution**

This study shows that most common age of presentation is 61 to 70 years of age with male is to female ratio 2.1:1 and mean age of presentation was 47.12 years of age.

Age Distribution		
S.No	Age Group	No of Cases
1	15-20	8
2	21-30	15
3	31-40	15
4	41-50	17
5	51-60	16
6	61-70	21
7	71-80	6
8	81-90	2

**Duration of symptoms**

This study shows that most of the cases presented to us after 3rd day of symptoms which is 24% followed by 4th day of symptoms which is 17%.

Mean duration of symptoms was 3.4 days.

Duration of symptoms		
S.No.	Day	No of Cases
1	1	17
2	2	12
3	3	24
4	4	17
5	5	16
6	6	14

**Site of perforation**

According to the study most common site of perforation was ileum 43% followed by gastric 28%.

Most of the duodenum and gastric perforation cases were due to peptic ulcer disease sequel.

11% of the cases were colonic perforation and 6% of the cases were appendicular. Jejunum accounted for 4% of the cases and duodenum 3%.

Site of Perforation		
S.No	Site	No of Cases
1	Gall bladder	5
2	Gastric	28
3	Ileum	43
4	Duodenum	3
5	Jejunum	4
6	Colon	11
7	Appendix	6

**Organism grown**

In our study out of 100 cases the most common organism grown is E. coli 42% followed by Klebsiella 12% and Pseudomonas 7%. There was no growth in about 25% of the cases.

In 6 cases there was mixed growth of organisms.

Cultured Organism		
S.No.	Name of Organism	No of Cases Grown
1	Burkholderia	1
2	E. Coli	42
3	Klebsiella	12
4	Pseudomonas	7
5	Diphtheroids	1
6	Enterobacter	4
7	Enterococcus	2
8	Candida	2
9	Coagulase Negative Staphylococcus	4
10	Proteus mirabilis	2
11	Acinetobacter	2
12	E. coli + Pseudomonas	3
13	E. coli + Pseudomonas + Proteus mirabilis	1
14	Enterobacter + Proteus mirabilis	1
15	Klebsiella + Pseudomonas + E. Coli	1

**Organism culture according to the site of perforation**

This study shows that most common organism growing in gastric perforation is E. coli followed by equal incidence of Klebsiella and Pseudomonas.

In perforation cases involving duodenum most common organism is E. coli followed by Enterobacter.

Jejunum perforation peritonitis showed most common Bacteria as E. coli, followed by Pseudomonas.

Colonic perforations showed E. coli as most common organism.

Similarly the peritoneal aspirates from appendicular perforation revealed E. coli as most common organism.

Out of five cases involving gall bladder perforation 3 were found sterile

with rem

ainings showing Klebsiella and Burkholderia in individual cultures.

Candida was isolated in two cases involving gastric perforation.

There were four cultures showing Coagulase negative Staphylococcus aureus in cases involving stomach, ileum and colon perforation.

Organism and Site of Perforation								
S. No.	Name of Organism	Gastric	Duodenum	Jejunum	Ileum	Colon	Appendix	Gall bladder
1	E. Coli	5	2	2	22	8	3	
2	Klebsiella	3			7	1		1
3	Pseudomonas	3		1	2	1	1	
4	Diphtheroids	1						
5	Enterobacter		1		1	1		
6	Enterococcus				2			
7	Burkholderia	1						1
8	Candida	2						
9	Coagulase Negative Staphylococcus	1			2	1		
10	Proteus mirabilis				1	1		
11	Acinetobacter				1			

**Organism and day of perforation**

The study showed that most common organism grown during second to third day was E. coli and most common organism grown during 4th to 5th day was E. coli followed by Klebsiella. On first day of perforation most of the cultures were negative for growth. Overall most common organisms grown was E. coli followed by Klebsiella.

Organism and Day of Perforation						
S.No.	Name of Organism	2 day	3 day	4 day	5 day	6 day
1	E. Coli	4	12	7	12	7
2	Klebsiella		2	6	2	2
3	Pseudomonas		2	1	2	2
4	Coagulase Negative Staphylococcus		2		1	2
5	Acinetobacter			1		1
6	Candida		1	1		1
7	Burkholderia	1				
8	Enterococcus		2			
9	Enterobacter			1	1	
10	Proteus Mirabilis				1	2
11	Diphtheroids			1		

**Sensitivity pattern for common antibiotics**

This study shows that E. Coli is most sensitive to Polymixin-B followed by Tigecycline, Imipenem and Amikacin in order and is resistant to Ampicillin followed by cephalosporin group of drugs like Cefepime, Cefotaxime, Ceftazidime, Ciprofloxacin, Cotrimoxazole. 19 cases of E. Coli were resistant to Piperacillin + Tazobactam.

Klebsiella was found most sensitive to Polymixin-B and Tigecycline and was resistant to Ampicillin and Cephalosporin group of drugs and was mostly resistant to Piperacillin plus Tazobactam.

Klebsiella and E. Coli shared more or less similar drug sensitivity pattern.

Pseudomonas was found most sensitive to Amikacin followed by Piperacillin + Tazobactam, Imipenem and Ceftazidime and Cefepime in order and was resistant to Aztreonam and Ampicillin in most cases.

Coagulase negative Staphylococcus Aureus was sensitive to Gentamycin, Vancomycin, Ampicillin, Cefepime, Ciprofloxacin, Cotrimoxazole, Doxycycline, Linezolid, Teicoplanin, Clindamycin.

Enterobacter species were sensitive to Polymixin-B, Tigecycline, and Amikacin, and were resistant to Ampicillin, Cefoperazone + Sulbactam, Ceftazidime, Cefepime, Ciprofloxacin, Cotrimoxazole, Gentamycin, Imipenem, Piperacillin + Tazobactam.

Acinetobacter was noted sensitive to Polymixin-B, Tigecycline and Minocycline and was resistant to Piperacillin + Tazobactam, Amikacin, Ampicillin, Cefepime, Cefotaxime, Ceftazidime, Ciprofloxacin, Cotrimoxazole, Gentamycin, and Imipenem.

Enterococcus was sensitive to Linezolid, Doxycycline and Vancomycin, Teicoplanin.

Burkholderia was sensitive to Cotrimoxazole, Tigecycline, Ceftazidime, Cefoperazone + Sulbactam and resistant to Vancomycin and Colistin.

Sensitivity pattern for common antibiotics

S.No.	Name of Antibiotic	E.Coli		Acinetobacter		Coagulase Negative Staphylococcus		Enterobacter		Klebsiella		Pseudomonas		Enterococcus	
		R	S	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	S
1	Aztreonam									1		2	1		
2	Vancomycin						3								1
3	Amikacin	13	25	2				1	1	8	3				
4	Ampicillin	35	3	2		1	3	3		11		1	4	2	
5	Cefepime	28	6	2			3	1		9	2		3		
6	Cefoperazone+Sulbactam							2					2		
7	Cefotaxime	28	2	2						8	2		2		
8	Ceftazidime	29	6	2				2		8		1	3		
9	Colistin										1		2		
10	Ciprofloxacin	31	7	2			3	1		9	2	1	2	1	
11	Cotrimoxazole	29	5	2		1	3	1		9	1			2	
12	Gentamycin	14	21	2			4	1		8	3		4		
13	Imipenem	5	26	2				1		5	6	1	3		
14	Minocycline		1		1						1		1		
15	Nitrofurantoin		1												

16	Piperacillin+tazobactam	19	17	2		1		1	2		8	1	1	3		
17	Polymyxin-B	0	37		2					3	1	10				
18	Tigecycline	1	36		1					3	1	10				
19	Teicoplanin					1		2							2	
20	Cefoxitin					1		1								
21	Clidamycin					1		2							1	
22	Doxycycline							3								1
23	Erythromicin					1		2							2	
24	Linezolid							3								2

R-RESISTANT S-SENSITIVE

#### IV. Discussion

This study included 100 cases with hollow viscous perforation. Secondary peritonitis caused by perforation of hollow viscus is common in emergency department of any hospital. It has high mortality rates if timely intervention is not provided to the patient or if patient fails to report early (2). A successful outcome depends upon early surgical intervention, source control and exclusive intraoperative peritoneal lavage and appropriate antibiotic therapy (18).

In our study male to female ratio was 2.1:1 which is similar to study conducted by Krenzien J Et al. and Metzger J Et al. (4,5)

Most common organism grown were E. Coli and Klebsiella which is similar to study carried out by Dr Mutiibwa Et al. (6)

6 patients had more than one organism cultured which was similar to study conducted by Dr Mutiibwa Et al. (6)

Most common site of perforation was ileum which was similar to study conducted by Dr Mutiibwa (6)

E. coli and Klebsiella followed by Pseudomonas were the most common Peritoneal isolates which was consistent with other studies relating to microbial flora in secondary peritonitis among patients with gastrointestinal perforation (7,8,9).

Majority of small bowel perforation in developing countries are due to typhoid fever (10,11,12,13).

Metronidazole has been used successfully in the treatment of anaerobic infections and resistance against Metronidazole is low (6).

Aerobic bacterial resistance to antibiotics is on rise and also varies according to population distribution, their socio-economic status, health awareness and accessibility to medical care, therefore local epidemiology should be considered while deciding empirical therapy for perforation peritonitis cases (6).

The study shows that majority of cultured bacteria were sensitive to Polymyxin-B, Tigecycline, Imipenem and Amikacin and most of them were resistant to drugs like Cefepime, Cefotaxime, Ceftazidime, Ciprofloxacin, Cotrimoxazole, Ampicillin.

Nineteen cases showing E. Coli in peritoneal aspirate, were resistant to Piperacillin+Tazobactam, and 8 out of 12 cases showing Klebsiella in aspirate were resistant to Piperacillin+Tazobactam.

Our study results were similar to the study conducted by Praveen Et al. According to them the most common site of gastrointestinal tract perforation was lower gastrointestinal tract and the most common organism grown was E. coli followed by Klebsiella Pneumoniae and most of the organisms were sensitive to antibiotics like Amikacin, Cefoperazone+Sulbactam and Piperacillin+Tazobactam. (19)

## V. Conclusion

Peritoneal fluid culture and microbial pattern can prove helpful in improving patient outcome by reducing sepsis related mortality and morbidity. Performing culture and sensitivity analysis for a specific area preoperatively can prove effective in reducing complications associated to perforation in the particular area. While formulating empirical therapy for patients with secondary peritonitis renal function tests, hepatic function tests of patient and adverse effect related to drug have to be kept in mind. From this study, it can be concluded that perforation of gastrointestinal tract most commonly involves ileum, followed by stomach. Secondary peritonitis in these cases was most commonly caused by E. Coli followed by Klebsiella. So during empirical treatment these organisms have to be specially considered. Both E. Coli and Klebsiella were sensitive to Polymyxin-B, Tigecycline and Imipenem and Amikacin in most of the cases and were resistant to Ampicillin and Cephalosporin group of drugs. Thus we would like to summarize that there is increasing antimicrobial resistance against commonly used antibiotics like Ampicillin, Cephalosporin group of drugs and Piperacillin+Tazobactam. The organisms grown were seen responding only to higher antibiotics like Tigecycline, Imipenem and Amikacin and approximately 50% of the organisms were showing resistance to Piperacillin+Tazobactam.

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**CONSENT:** Informed consent was obtained from the patient for publication of this case report.

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