Coagulation and Fibrinolytic Systems in Neonatal Sepsis

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By

Hany Fekry Tawfik
M.B. B.Ch.

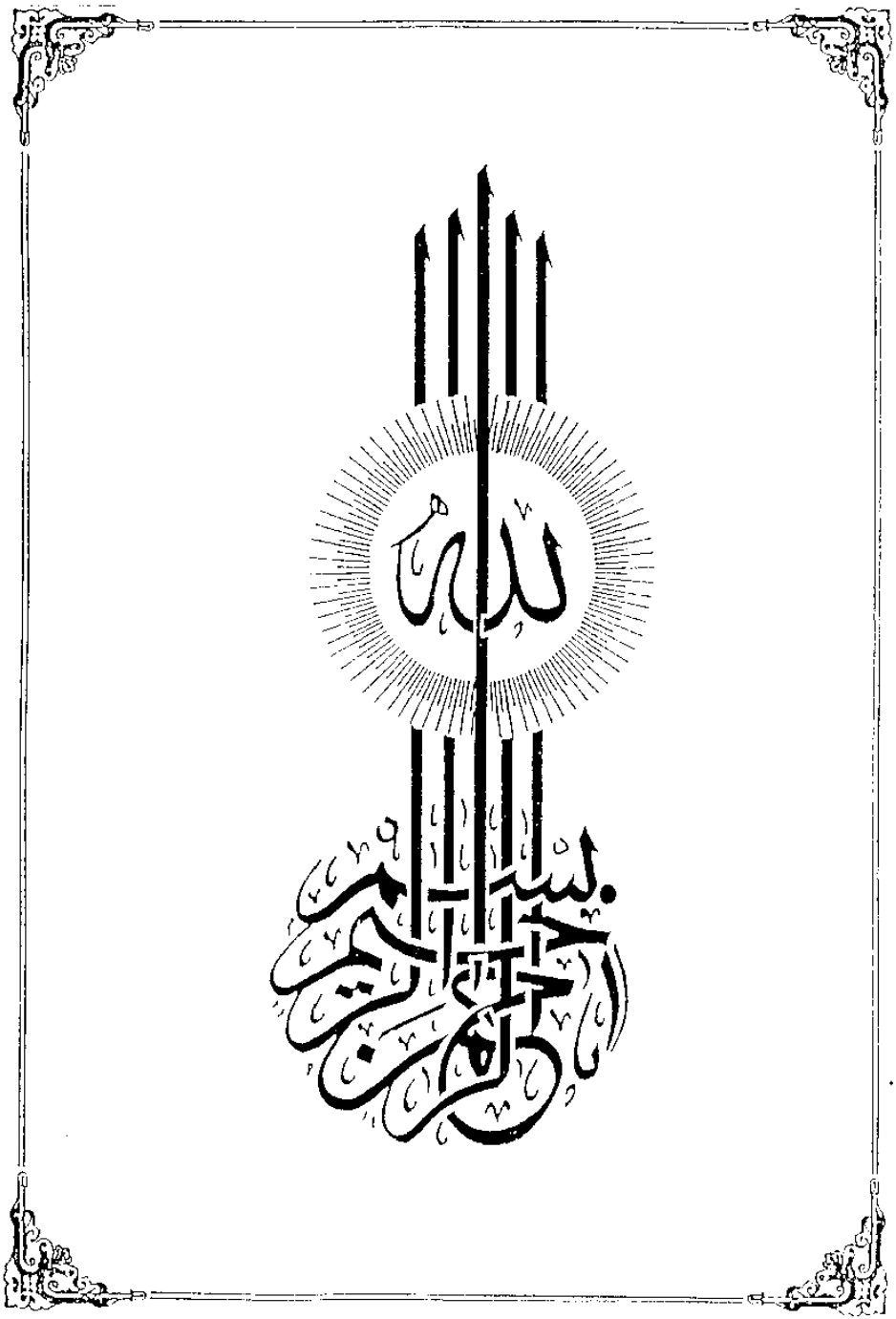
Supervisors

Dr.
Ismail Sadek Ismail
Assist. Professor of Pediatrics
Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University

Dr.
Hisham Awad Abdel Sami Awad
Lecturer of Pediatrics
Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University

Dr.
Azza Sadek El-Danasoury
Lecturer of Clinical Pathology
Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University

Faculty of Medicine
Ain Shams University
1995



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INTRODUCTION

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Sepsis is a major cause of morbidity and mortality during the neonatal period. Endotoxins play an important role in the development of sepsis syndrome. In septic patients, level of circulating endotoxin is a prognostic marker for the clinical outcome of septic syndrome **[Brandtzaeg et al., 1989]**.

It has been reported that exposure to endotoxin induces a procoagulant state characterized by activation of the contact system of coagulation and alteration of fibrinolytic system with depletion of coagulation **inhibitors [Van Deventer et al., 1990].** Coagulation activation in sepsis may become apparant in several ways:

First, the systemic activation of blood coagulation results in generation and deposition of fibrin, leading to the formation of microvascular thrombosis in various organs which may be involved in the pathogenesis of the multiple organ failure.

Second, depletion of coagulation proteins due to extensive and ongoing activation of coagulation system may induce severe bleeding complications, **[Marder et al., 1987].**

Aim of the Work:

The study evaluates the contact system, coagulation inhibitors and fibrinolysis in full-term newborns during sepsis, in addition, the changes in haemostatic parameters will be correlated with severity of the disease and clinical outcome.