فحص إيجابية مصل الهليكوباكتر بيلوري في حالات القطئ المستعصل بالسيكدات الحوامل

رسالة توطئة للمصول علي ورجة الااجستير في التولير وأمراض النساء

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Screening for H.pylori Serum IgG Seropositivity in Hyperemesis Gravidarum Pregnant Ladies

Chesis

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of the Master Degree in Obstetrics and Gynecology

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2014

Acknowledgement

First of all I thank **Allah** for his great mercy and help to complete this work.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation to **Prof. Dr. Fekrya Ahmad Salama** professor of obstetrics and gynecology

Faculty of Medicine Ain Shams University for her continuous encourgement and valuable advice to bring this work to light.

Many thanks should be expressed to **Dr. Ahmed Adel Tharwat** assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology Faculty of Medicine Ain Shams University for his tremendous effort he has done in the meticulous revision of this work.

I would like to thank **Dr. Nashwa El Khazragy** consultant of clinical pathology, head of research department Faculty of Medicine Ain Shams University for her sincere help in the laboratory work.

At last, I am indebted for my family

🖎 Eman Mahamad Kemally



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List of Abbreviations

ACG American College of Gastroenterology

ACTH Adrenocorticotropic Hormone
AUC Area Under the ROC Curve
AU/ml Absorbance units per milliliter

b.d Bis in die 'twice daily'

Cag Cytotoxin Associated Gene Protein

CI Confidence interval

COPD Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

C-UBT Carbon Urea Breath Test

ELISA Enzyme Linked Immuno-sorbant Assay

FDA Food and Drug Administration

FMIA Flow Microparticle Immunofluorescence Assay

GERD Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease HCG Human Chorionic Gonadotropin

HG Hyperemesis GravidarumHP H.pylori /Helicobacter Pylori

HS Highly Significant

IL Interleukin

IM intestinal metaplasia

ITP Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura
 MALT Mucosal associated lymphoid tissue
 NSAID Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs
 NVP Nausea and Vomiting of Pregnancy

PCR Polymerase Chain Reaction
PPI Proton Pump Inhibitors

S Significant
TB Toluidine blue
Th T Helper Cell

TNF- α Tumor Necrosis Factor
 Vac A +PV Positive Predictive Value
 -PV Negative Predictive Value

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Introduction

The nausea and vomiting associated with pregnancy usually begins by 9-10 weeks of gestation, peaks at 11-13 weeks, and resolves in most cases by 12-14 weeks. Studies estimate that nausea and vomiting occurs in 50-90% of pregnancies. In 1-10% of pregnancies, symptoms may continue beyond 20-22 weeks (*Bailit*, 2005).

Hyperemesis gravidarum (HG) is characterized by persistent nausea and vomiting associated with ketosis and weight loss (>5% of prepregnancy weight). It may cause volume depletion, electrolytes and acid-base imbalances, nutritional deficiencies, and even death. Severe hyperemesis requiring hospital admission occurs in 0.3-2% of pregnancies (*Goodwin*, 2008).

Prevalence of HG varies from 0.3 to 1.5% of all live births (*Sheehan*, 2007). The exact cause of HG is not well known and is probably multifactorial in which psychological factors, alteration of gastrointestinal motility, hormonal changes, infections, immunological, metabolic and anatomical factors appear to intervene (*Verberg et al.*, 2005). It is the most common cause of hospitalization in the first half of pregnancy and second only to preterm labor for pregnancy overall. It can

be associated with serious maternal and fetal morbidity such as Wernicke's encephalopathy, fetal growth restriction, and even maternal and fetal death (*Sheehan*, 2007).

The Helicobacter pylori (H. pylori) are recognized as a significant causative agent of gastritis in humans and as an essential factor in the pathogenesis of peptic ulcer (*Dunn et al.*, 1997). Various findings suggest that this organism is also involved in the pathogenesis of cancer and lymphoma of the stomach (*Versalovic et al.*, 1998).

In developing countries, 70% to 90% of the population is infected by the bacteria, while in industrialized countries the prevalence is smaller, ranging between 25% and 50% (*Dunn et al.*, 1997).

The action of H. Pylori is widely studied in literature and some studies now focus specifically on its association with nausea and vomiting (*Kenneth*, 2010). A possible association between H. pylori infection and HG has been the focus of researching for some studies (*Kazerooni et al.*, 2002).

Several ways of testing exist. One can test noninvasively for H. pylori infection with a blood antibody test, stool antigen test, or with the carbon urea breath test (in which the patient drinks¹⁴C or ¹³C labelled urea, which the bacterium

metabolizes, producing labelled carbon dioxide that can be detected in the breath). Another method for detecting H. pylori infection is a biopsy check during endoscopy with a rapid urease test, histological examination, and microbial culture (*Stenström et al.*, 2008).

In essence, serology samples the entire stomach whereas biopsy only samples a small region, and the inflammatory process may be patchy, so serologic analysis may be more sensitive than diagnostic methods involving biopsy (*Blaser*, 2000). The development of H. pylori-specific fluorescent serum antibody test allows for suitable screening for H. pylori infection and with the ease of his simple, cheap and non-invasive testing, it is possible to detect H. pylori infection in pregnant women (*Kocak et al.*, 1999).

Aim of Work

To assess the value of screening for helicobacter pylori seropositivity in hyperemesis gravidarum for better evaluating the condition and improving the cure rate especially in resistant cases of hyperemesis gravidarum.

Question:

In women suffering from hyperemesis ravidarum is the level of H.pylori IgG higher than normal pregnant women?