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BINDIN

ROLE OF DUPLEX-DOPPLER SONOGRAPHY IN RENAL HAEMODYNAMIC CHANGES IN LIVER DISEASES

Thesis
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In TROPICAL MEDICINE

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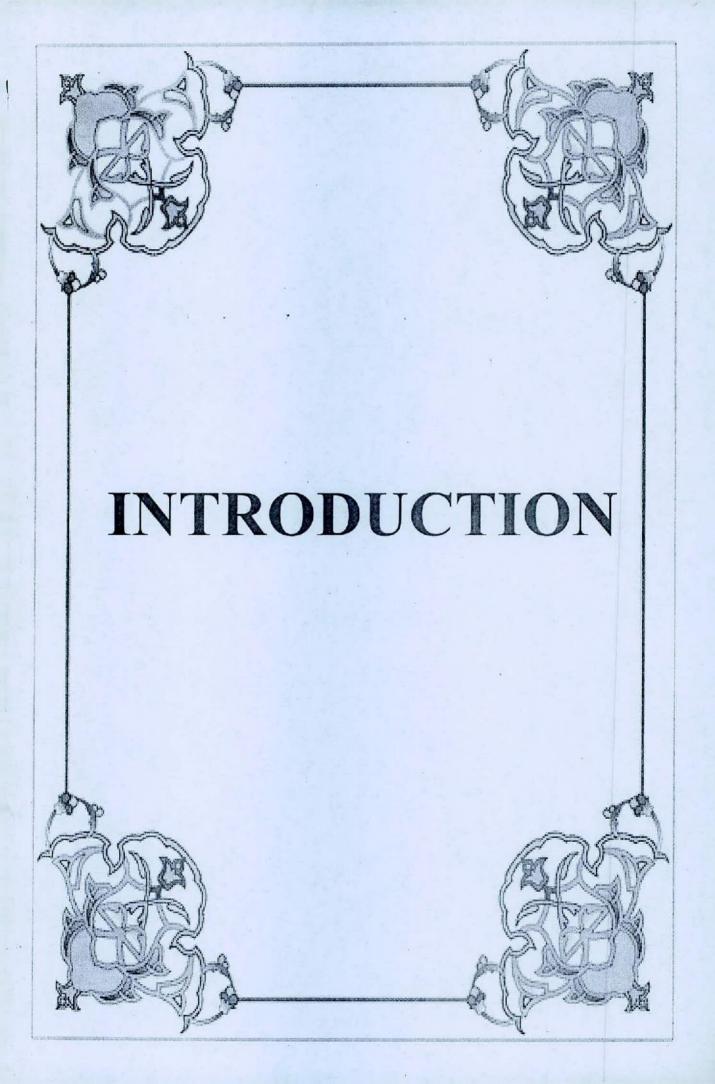
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INTRODUCTION

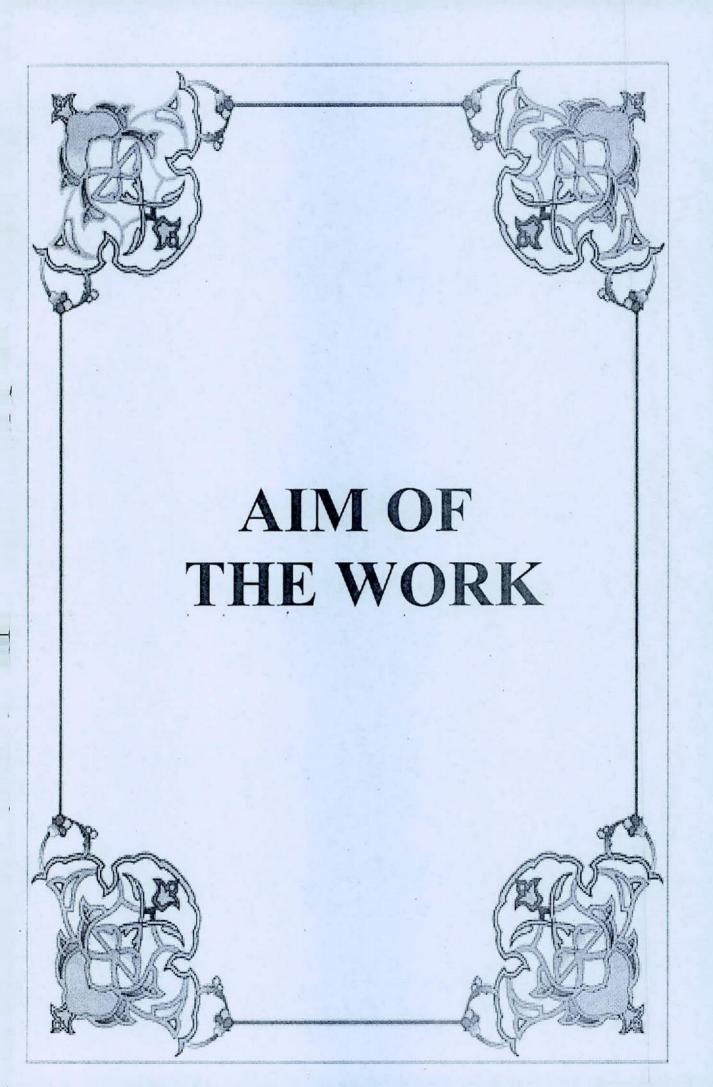
Renal disorders complicating liver disease are frequent findings due to either extrahepatic causes like intoxication and circulatory dysfunction, diseases that simultaneously affect both the liver and kidney like multisystemic or viral diseases or other clinical entities in which the manifestations of renal disease are consequences of hepatic disorders as in liver circhosis or in fulminant hepatitis (Schmidt, 1983).

Hepatorenal syndrome is a severe form of kidney dysfunction and commonly developed in patients with established liver disease. It is defined as unexplained kidney failure in patients with liver disease which does not have clinical, laboratory, or anatomic evidence of other known causes of kidney failure (Platt et al., 1994). The progressive renal dysfunction is generally considered to be functional in nature due to absence of consistent pathologic changes. The kidney failure can be corrected after liver transplantation, not only this but also the kidney in patients with the hepatorenal syndrome can be successfully transplanted into patient with normal livers (koppel et al., 1996).

Renal haemodynamic changes begins early in the course of liver disease (Papadakis and Arieff, 1987). The hallmark change is intense intra-renal vasoconstriction (Gentilini et al., 1980).

In hepatorenal syndrome, renal arterial vasoconstriction occurs causing reduced renal blood flow with ma ked decrease in renal perfusion leading to functional renal failure (Wilkinson et al., 1990).

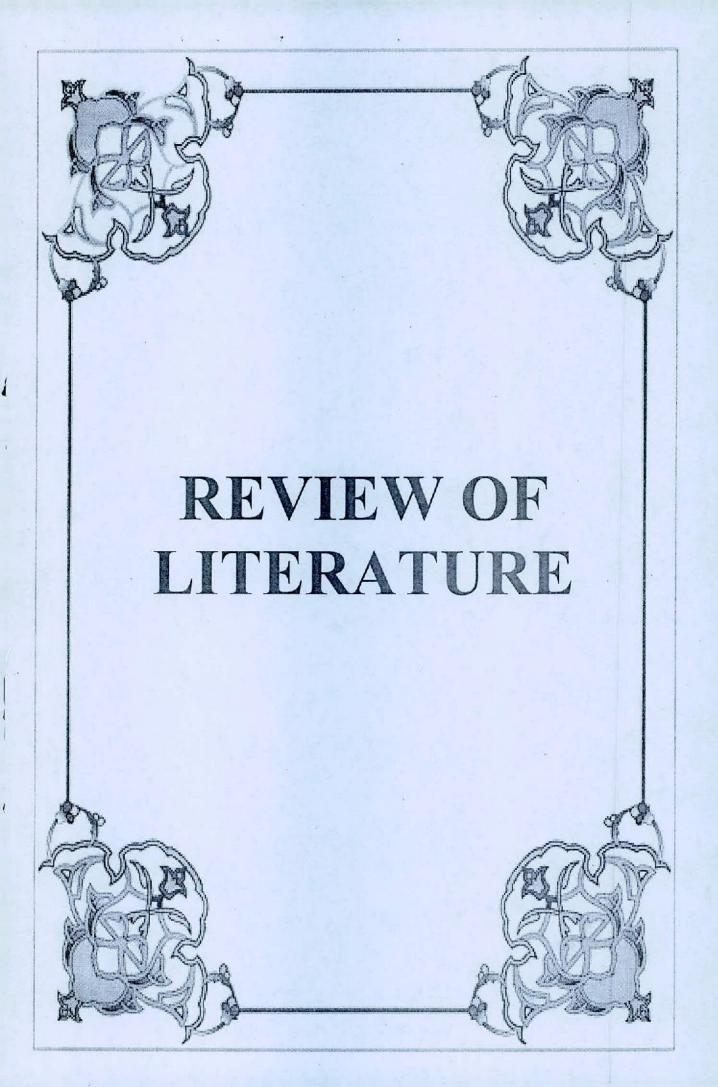
Duplex ultrasonography has been demonstrated to be an accurate and reliable technique in liver diseases and in detection of early kidney dysfunction (Maroto et al., 1994 and Colli et al., 1993). An elevated resistive index has been observed in various conditions associated with elevated vascular resistance, therefore, duplex-Doppler ultrasonography may also be of value in the diagnosis of functional kidney failure in cirrhosis which is due to renal arteriolar vasoconstriction (Platt et al., 1989).



AIM OF THE WORK

The aim of this work is to assess the value of duplex Doppler ultrasonography:

- 1- In detecting liver disease related kidney dysfunction.
- 2- Also to predict renal dysfunction in some cases of chronic liver diseases.



THE RENAL CIRCULATION

I. Blood Supply of the Kidney: (Figure 1)

A- Arterial Supply:

The kidney is supplied by the renal artery, which arises bilaterally from the sides of the abdominal aort; at the level of the 1st or 2nd lumbar vertebra. Both arteries are frontally covered by the corresponding veins. The right renal artery has an average length of 4.5 cm, and the left artery 4 cm. Their average diameters are: on the right 0.53 cm and on the left 0.55 cm (Graves, 1971).

The renal artery enters the kidney at the hilum, then divides into 2 main branches, anterior and posterior. The anterior main branch further divides into four segmental arteries, which supply the apex of the kidney, the upper and middle segments of the anterior surface and the entire lower pole respectively. The posterior main branch supplies the remainder of the kidney. These segmental arteries are "end arteries", where obstruction of an arterial vessel leads to complete ischemia in the tissue of its area of distribution (Graves, 1971).