



Study of Hematological Parameters in Patients with Scorpion Envenomation Presented to the Poison Control Center of Ain Shams University Hospitals

Thesis

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قالوا

لسببنا انك لا تعلم لنا
إلا ما علمتنا إنك أنت
العليم العظيم

صدقة الله العظيم

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List of Contents

Title	Page No.
List of Tables	i
List of Figures	iii
List of Abbreviations	v
Introduction	1
Aim of the Work	4
Review of Literature	
☞ Anatomy of Scorpions	5
☞ Epidemiology and Taxonomy	8
☞ Scorpion Envenomation	17
•	S
scorpion Venom	Error! Bookmark not defined.
•	P
athophysiology	24
•	C
linical Presentation	27
•	T
reatment	34
•	H
ematological Parameters	38
Patients and Methods	40
Results	53
Discussion	76
Summary	97
Conclusion	101
Recommendations	102
References	103
Arabic Summary	\

List of Tables

Table No.	Title	Page No.
Table (1):	Species of scorpion known dangerous for the man	10
Table (2):	Different species of scorpions collected from different regions in Egypt.....	12
Table (3):	Scorpion envenomation by species, regions, and characteristic toxicity	16
Table (4):	Handling of scorpion envenomation.....	35
Table (5):	Classification of scorpion stings, including signs and symptoms	42
Table (6):	Categories of blood pressure in adults.....	44
Table (7):	Reed's classification of the level of consciousness	45
Table (8):	Patient data sheet	50
Table (9):	Age distribution among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation).....	54
Table (10):	Sex distribution among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation) with scorpion sting	55
Table (11):	The residence 's distribution of 36 adult patients with scorpion sting.....	56
Table (12):	The delay time in hours among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation).....	57
Table (13):	The anatomical site of the sting among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation).....	58
Table (14):	The vital data among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation).....	60

List of Tables (Cont...)

Table No.	Title	Page No.
Table (15):	The clinical manifestations among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation).....	63
Table (16):	The initial hematological values among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation).....	66
Table (17):	The initial hematological values before and after antivenom therapy among patients with moderate and severe scorpion envenomation	68
Table (18):	Sensitivity and specificity of hematological parameters [total leucocytic count (TLC), lymphocyte, monocytes, platelet large cell ratio (P-LCR) and activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT)] on admission among 36 mild, moderate and severe cases of scorpion envenomation	71
Table (19):	Electrocardiographic changes (ECG) in correlation to severity among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation).....	73
Table (20):	Hospital disposition among 36 scorpion stung patients.....	74
Table (21):	Percentage of outcome (recovery, morbidity, and mortality) among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation).....	75

List of Figures

Fig. No.	Title	Page No.
Figure (1):	General morphology of scorpion	5
Figure (2):	Scanning electron micrograph.....	6
Figure (3):	Distribution and incidence of Old World and New World scorpion species	9
Figure (4):	Dorsal and ventral view of <i>Androctonus</i> <i>bicolor</i> (a) <i>Androctonus crassicauda</i> (b).....	13
Figure (5):	Dorsal and ventral view of <i>Androctonus</i> <i>australis</i> (a) and <i>Leiurus quinquestriatus</i> (b).....	14
Figure (6):	Three-dimensional structures of Na-ScTxs	20
Figure (7):	Summary of major classes of ion channels targeted by scorpion toxin neuropeptides.....	23
Figure (8):	Pathophysiological and clinical effects of systemic scorpion envenomation.....	25
Figure (9):	Schematic presentation of clinical and pathophysiological situations.....	29
Figure (11):	Sex distribution in 36 adult patients with scorpion sting (a) mild envenomation (b) moderate and severe envenomation.	55
Figure (12):	The distribution of residence among 36 adult patients with scorpion sting.....	56
Figure (13):	Comparison as regard the anatomical site of the sting among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation)	58
Figure (14):	Comparison as regard the vital data among 36 scorpion stung patients groups I (mild envenomation) and group II (moderate and severe envenomation)	60

List of Figures (Cont...)

Fig. No.	Title	Page No.
Figure (15):	Comparison as regard the initial hematological parameters before and after antivenom therapy among patients with moderate and severe scorpion envenomation.....	67
Figure (16):	Comparison as regard the initial hematological parameters and following antivenom therapy among patients with moderate and severe scorpion envenomation.....	69
Figure (17):	Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) Curve for cut-off levels of initial total leucocytic count, lymphocyte, monocytes, P-LCR and APTT among 36 adult patients with scorpion sting.	71
Figure (18):	ECG showing sinus tachycardia.....	73
Figure (19):	ECG of 28y old male of group II presented with severe scorpion envenomation showing depressed ST segment in lead II and elevated ST segment in lead _a VL	73

List of Abbreviations

Abb.	Meaning
ANOVA	: <i>Analysis of variance</i>
<i>A. australis</i>	: <i>Androctonus australis</i>
AUC	: <i>Area under the curve</i>
APTT	: <i>Activated partial thromboplastin time</i>
DBP	: <i>Diastolyic blood pressure</i>
fL	: <i>Femtoliters</i>
g/dL	: <i>Gram / deciliter</i>
Hb	: <i>Hemoglobin concentration</i>
Hct	: <i>Hematocrit</i>
INR	: <i>International normalized ratio</i>
LD	: <i>Lethal Dose</i>
mmHg	: <i>Millimeter mercury</i>
mEq/L	: <i>Milliequivalent / liter</i>
MPV	: <i>Mean platelet volume</i>
min	: <i>Minute</i>
μL	: <i>Microlitre</i>
N	: <i>Number</i>
NS	: <i>Non-significant</i>
NPV	: <i>Negative predictive value</i>
PI	: <i>Platelet indices</i>
P-LCR	: <i>Platelet large cell ratio</i>

<i>PCC-ASUH</i>	: <i>Poison Control Center of Ain Shams University Hospitals</i>
<i>PDW</i>	: <i>Platelet distribution width</i>
<i>PT</i>	: <i>Prothrombin time</i>
<i>PCT</i>	: <i>Plateletcrit</i>
<i>PPV</i>	: <i>Positive predictive value</i>
<i>ROC</i>	: <i>Receiver Operating Characteristic</i>
<i>RBC</i>	: <i>Red blood cell count</i>
<i>SD</i>	: <i>Standard deviation</i>
<i>SBP</i>	: <i>Systolic blood pressure</i>
<i>Sp.</i>	: <i>Species</i>
<i>TLC:</i>	: <i>Total leukocytic count</i>
<i>° C</i>	: <i>Degree Celsius</i>
<i>%</i>	: <i>Percentage</i>

INTRODUCTION

Scorpion envenomation constitutes a genuine problem of public health all over the world, especially in North-Saharan Africa (*Abd El-Aziz et al., 2019*).

Old World and New World scorpions are different in venom composition, clinical presentation and severity, and in turn, various therapeutic approaches (*Abroug et al., 2020*).

Biologically active substances existing in scorpion venom are involved in severe and often fatal clinical complications; as scorpion venoms constitutes a mixture of cardiotoxins, nephrotoxins, hemolytic toxins, and neurotoxins (*Cesaretli and Ozkan, 2010*) and (*Abd El-Aziz et al., 2019*).

Victims such as children and the elderly who suffer from respiratory and/or cardiovascular diseases become at high risk after scorpion envenomation if not managed adequately and quickly (*Santos et al., 2016*).

Systemic manifestations occur in about 5% of cases after a scorpion sting. The main life-threatening conditions are cardiopulmonary consequences and are attributed to the mortality in about 1% of all scorpion stings (*Abroug et al., 2020*).

The balance between pro-inflammatory and anti-inflammatory cytokines are released by the host in various proportions according to the different species of scorpions. These mediators regulate the extent of inflammation, resulting in major clinical effects such as cardiac dysfunction, pulmonary oedema and shock (*Petricevich, 2010*).

Platelet indices (PI) including mean platelet volume (MPV), platelet distribution width (PDW), and plateletcrit (PCT) can be altered in different inflammatory diseases, such as inflammatory bowel disease, rheumatoid arthritis, familial mediterranean fever (*Konca et al., 2014*).

In addition, many studies have been conducted recently with the help of hematological parameters, especially, the total and differential leukocytic count together with (PI) as a potential new biomarker to predict the severity of scorpion envenomation and other diseases; infectious diseases, cardiovascular diseases, and immunologic diseases (*Horoz et al., 2020*).

The limited resources with shortage of intensive-care facilities in scorpion endemic regions, account for the 3,250 deaths /year due to envenomation. While, adequate care can avoid serious consequences (*Abroug et al., 2015*).

Despite the fatal consequences that occur due to scorpion envenomation, it is not represented enough in the clinical research creating the label of “neglected disease” (*Abroug et al., 2019*).

Up till 2020, limited studies have correlated the possible alterations in the platelet indices as well as the components of complete blood picture to the severity of scorpion envenomation. The articles that describe the relation between these hematological effects and antivenin therapy are still insufficient and may focus on one aspect than others.

AIM OF THE WORK

The aim of this study is to investigate the possible alterations in some hematological parameters and their correlations to the severity of scorpion envenomation. In addition to assessment of the relation between these hematological alterations and antivenin therapy.