ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Pulmonary manifestations remains one of the most common cause of morbidity and mortality in patients with Ankylosing spondylitis. Early detection and treatment of pulmonary abnormalities can reduce the morbidity and improve the quality of life. The aim and objective is to find the prevalence of pulmonary manifestations in patients with ankylosing spondylitis and to find their association with age, sex, duration of the disease.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The study is undertaken on the patients approaching the outpatient department as well as the Inpatients of the Coimbatore Medical College Hospital, Coimbatore during the period of study (i.e. July 2015 to July 2016). A total of fifty (50) subjects who had approached the Rheumatology Department in the Hospital and having satisfied the ASAS criteria were selected for the study. These patients were compared with another fifty (50) age and sex matched control group, who had come to the OP department for non-specific complaints. The control group was selected on a random basis. This is a type of cross sectional study.
The consented patients were enrolled in the study. Detailed history, examination and relevant investigations were done according to the predesigned proforma. Pulmonary abnormalities were found with pulmonary function test and HRCT chest..

RESULTS:

In the present study, Cases had significant association with the pulmonary manifestation compared with the controls. 10(20%) out of 50 cases and 1(2%) out of 50 controls had pulmonary manifestations. Among the 10 cases, . HRCT chest showed interstitial lung disease in 4 cases and pulmonary function test showed restrictive pattern in 10 cases.

CONCLUSION:

The prevalence of pulmonary manifestations in Ankylosing spondylitis was found to be 20%. Increased age and longer duration of the disease was associated with increased prevalence of the pulmonary manifestations.

KEY WORDS:

Ankylosing spondylitis, interstitial lung disease, pulmonary function test and high resolution computed tomography.