TOWARDS DEVELOPING A SCORING SYSTEM FOR RISK STRATIFICATION OF YELLOW COWDUNG COLORING AGENT POISONING AND TO ASSESS THE NEED FOR INTENSIVE CARE TREATMENT

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

The emergency medicine department of Coimbatore Medical College receives cases of Yellow coloring agent poisoning on a daily basis. The purpose of this study is to develop an improved scoring system for the risk stratification of Yellow coloring agent poisoning.

AIM

The study focuses on clinical features and biochemical parameters in patients admitted with acute Yellow coloring agent poisoning and their prognostic significance and to assess the need for intensive care at the primary health care level.

MATERIALS & METHODS

The study was conducted at Coimbatore Medical College Hospital for a period of 1 year in patients admitted with acute Yellow coloring agent poisoning in medicine emergency department. On admission, blood samples were sent for biochemical analysis. Based on the clinical presentation at admission, patients were grouped into mild moderate and severe poisoning according to the APACHE II scoring, and the need for ventilator support was noted.
RESULTS

Majority of patients were within the age group of 20-30 years (33%). Female gender predominated, 63%. 61% had mild poisoning, 24% had moderate and 15% had severe poisoning according to APACHE score. There was significant association with Hypotension, Low GCs, Seizures, Hypoxia and ECG abnormalities with poor prognosis (p<0.01). Ventricular tachycardia and seizures were the two exclusive parameters associated with poor prognosis. Laboratory parameters showed abnormally elevated values in those with severe APACHE II score.

CONCLUSION

Most of the biochemical parameters mentioned above show an early elevation in severe Yellow coloring agent poisoning; which, when tested, can be used as an early indicator of severity.

KEY WORDS

Yellow coloring agent, APACHE II, Ventilator support, Biochemical parameters