

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Anaemia is a major public health problem in India. According to WHO, there are two billion people with anaemia in the world and half of the anaemia is due to iron deficiency. The prevalence of anaemia is disproportionately high in developing countries like India which attributes to poverty, inadequate diet, certain diseases, pregnancy and lactation, and poor access to health services. Nutritional anaemia constitutes the most important cause of anaemia. The purpose of this study was to study the laboratory profile of patients with anemia and to study the hematological types of anemia in such patients as well as the closest possible etiological profile.

Objectives:

To study the prevalence of anaemia and its aetiology in patients attending Sree Mookambika Institute Of Medical Sciences and to study the proportion of patients with nutritional anaemia.

Materials and methods:

A cross sectional study was done in a tertiary health care hospital in kanyakumari district ,SREE MOOKAMBIKA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES.A total of 160 patients who came to medicine department of the same who fulfilled our inclusion criteria were included in the study.The study took place for a period of 18 months.Statistical analysis was done using percentage,standard error of proportion and chi-square test.

Results:

The overall prevalence of anemia was found to be 58.1% of which 28.1% has moderate, 18.1% has mild and 11.9% has severe anemia. A significant association of anemia was found with age, socio economic status, chronic illness and history of blood transfusion.

Conclusion:

The high prevalence of anemia (58.1%) indicates that anemia continues to be a major public health problem in India. Age, socio economic status, literacy are the major determinants that contribute to the problem of anemia. High prevalence despite the easy availability and access to medical care, indicates the level of ignorance and indifference to health needs.