

This section of the journal serves to highlight the works and researches done by local doctors or doctors either in Brunei Darussalam or in collaborations with other centres that have been published in regional or international journals. This also includes works published as part of collaboration with centres outside of Brunei Darussalam. These works include review articles, original articles and case reports published between 15th December 2013 to 14th April 2014. (Some publications have been published or indexed at a later date than publication).

Acute kidney injury in lymphoma: a single centre experience.

Khalil MA, Latif H, Rehman A, Kashif WU, Awan S, Khalil Z, Mushtaq U, Ahmad M, Khalil MA, Ranga Sami M, Tan J.

Int J Nephrol. 2014;2014:272961. doi: 10.1155/2014/272961. Epub 2014 Feb 3.

ABSTARCT

Background. Acute kidney injury (AKI) is a common but least studied complication of lymphoma. Objective. To determine the frequency and predictors of AKI in lymphoma and to study the impact of AKI on hospital stay and mortality. Methods. Retrospective review of medical records of hospitalized lymphoma patients aged ≥ 14 years between January 2008 and December 2011 was done. Results. Out of 365 patients, AKI was present in 31.8% (116/365). Multivariate logistic regression analysis showed that independent predictors for AKI included sepsis (odds ratio (OR) 3.76; 95% CI 1.83-7.72), aminoglycosides (OR 4.75; 95% CI 1.15-19.52), diuretics (OR 2.96; 95% CI 1.31-6.69), tumor lysis syndrome (OR 3.85; 95% CI 1.54-9.59), and R-CVP regimen (OR 4.70; 95% CI 1.20-18.36). AKI stages 2 and 3 was associated with increased hospital stay (OR 2.01; 95% CI 1.19-3.40). Conclusion. AKI was significantly associated with sepsis, aminoglycoside, diuretics, presence of tumor lysis syndrome, and use of R-CVP regimen. Presence of AKIN (Acute Kidney Injury Network) stages 2 and 3 AKI had increased hospital stay. AKI was also associated with increased mortality.

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Patterns of suicide in Brunei Darussalam and comparison with neighbouring countries in South East Asia.

Telisinghe PU, Colombage SM.

J Forensic Leg Med. 2014 Feb;22:16-9. doi: 10.1016/j.jflm.2013.11.007.

ABSTARCT

A retrospective study of suicides in Brunei Darussalam (Brunei) over a 20 year period from 1991-2010 was conducted by analysing the post-mortem examination and external examination reports and other relevant records. The suicide rate in Brunei is very low (1.9 deaths per 100,000 per year). The majority of the victims were expatriates 82(66%) and hanging was the commonest mode of suicide both in expatriate and local population. The study showed that the suicide rate among the Bruneian Malays was the lowest (0.5 deaths per 100,000 per year) among the different nationalities. The study highlights the demographics and socio-economic background of the victims, methods used in committing suicide, suicide rates in different ethnic groups and predisposing factors. The results of this study would be of use for taking preventive measures to minimize the incidence of suicide.

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Intracerebral coinfection with Burkholderia pseudomallei and Cryptococcus neoformans in a patient with systemic lupus erythematosus.

Samad I, Wang MC, Chong VH.

Southeast Asian J Trop Med Public Health. 2014 Mar;45(2):352-6.

ABSTARCT

Infections are a serious complication in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), and are an important cause of morbidity and mortality. SLE patients are particularly susceptible to infection due to immune suppression from underlying disease or treatment. Most infections are due to common bacterial organisms. Clinicians also need to be aware of the possibility of polymicrobial infections as these may cause diagnostic delay and affect outcomes. We report the case of an intra-cerebral coinfection with Burkholderia pseudomallei and Cryptococcus neoformans in a 34-year-old woman with SLE. The diagnosis in this case was delayed since coinfection was not suspected.

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A preliminary assessment of asymptomatic bacteriuria of pregnancy in Brunei Darussalam.

Muharram SH, Ghazali SN, Yaakub HR, Abiola O. Malays J Med Sci. 2014 Mar;21(2):34-9.

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Asymptomatic bacteriuria describes a condition in which urine culture reveals a significant growth of pathogenic bacteria, specifically greater than 10(5) of colony-forming units per millilitre of urine. It has a direct bearing on the health of a pregnant woman, her pregnancy and consequently the foetus. Thus, this study investigated the prevalence of asymptomatic bacteriuria of pregnancy in Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha (RIPAS) Hospital, the premiere tertiary hospital in Brunei Darussalam.

METHODS: A total of 170 pregnant women who were visiting the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at RIPAS Hospital for routine antenatal care between February and March 2011 volunteered for this cross-sectional study. They did not present with any clinical symptoms of bacteriuria or indeed any other illness. They were investigated for bacteriuria by urine microscopy, culture, and sensitivity.

RESULTS: Urine samples from seven of the women produced significant bacterial growth, showing a prevalence of 4.1%. The organisms isolated were Klebsiella species (2.94%) and Escherichia coli (1.18%); these bacteria were both sensitive to amoxicillin, vancomycin, tetracycline, and erythromycin.

CONCLUSION: Brunei has a similar prevalence of asymptomatic bacteriuria to other South-East Asian countries.

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