# COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLAXIS FOR ELECTIVE CAESAREAN SECTION AT A TERTIARY CARE HOSPITAL

Raj Kamal<sup>1\*</sup>, Alka Khanna<sup>2</sup>, Subhash Kumar Verma<sup>3</sup>

- 1. Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, S.K. Government Medical College, Sikar, Rajasthan, India.
- 2. Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, S.K. Government Medical College, Sikar, Rajasthan, India.

3. Senior Resident, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, S.K. Government Medical College, Sikar, Rajasthan, India.

## \*Corresponding Author:

**Raj Kamal,** Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, S.K. Government Medical College, Sikar, Rajasthan, India

## Abstract

**Background:** Women undergoing caesarean section have an increased risk of postoperative infection and infectious morbidity compared with women giving birth vaginally. Infectious morbidity for the mother, consisting generally of endomyometritis and wound infection remains a leading cause of post-operative complications. Prophylactic antibiotics are expected to work at the side of the antiseptic measures taken earlier than and for the duration of surgical operation. present comparative look at became conducted between injection Ceftriaxone single dose versus routine 5-day course of ampicillin and metronidazole in non-compulsory caesarean delivery patients at a tertiary care center.

**Material and Methods:** This comparative, prospective, hospital-based study become performed in the department of Gynaecology and Obstetrics, in patients posted for noncompulsory LSCS, BMI < 30, willing to participate in study & follow up for 3 months. Total 50 patient participate in this study. Patients have been randomly divided in two groups. Group-1; patients received injection Ceftriaxone 1gm. Intravenous stat on the time of induction of anesthesia & group-2 patients received intravenous ampicillin and metronidazole for 1 day followed by using oral for next 4 days.

**Results:** Mean age was  $24.9\pm3.8$  years in group 1 &  $23.2\pm3.2$  years in group 2. BMI at the time of admission was  $27.4\pm6.8$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> &  $28.3\pm6.2$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> in group 1 & 2 respectively. Mean duration of surgery was  $44.8\pm7.2$  min in group-1 &  $48.2\pm5.9$  in group 2. Average blood loss was  $640\pm60$  ml in group-1 &  $680\pm76$  ml in groups- 2. Mean days of hospitalisation was  $4.9\pm3.8$  days &  $5.8\pm3.2$  days in group 1 & 2 respectively. History of previous laparotomy like LSCS, ectopic surgery, etc. Become present in 40 & 30 patients from group 1 & 2 respectively. Fever was most common morbidity noted (group 1–8 & group 2-6) followed by urinary tract infection (group A – 5 & group B -6), wound infection, endometritis & early neonatal sepsis. Statistical difference between group 1 & 2 was non-significant for all morbidities. One patient from each group required resuturing. No mortality was noted in present study

**Conclusion:** This study shows single dose antibiotic prophylaxis is as effective as conventional multi dose antibiotic therapy. It is cost effective, antibiotic resistance of microorganisms can be prevented, reduces patient side effects, nursing staff work.

Keywords: prophylactic antibiotic, caesarian delivery, ceftriaxone, ampicillin and metronidazole

## 1. Introduction

Over the last few a long time a consistent increase has been observed in the rate of ceasarean deliveries is noted worldwide & India. It is regularly argued that obstetricians also an increasing number of prefer for surgical birth than a normal birth due to multiple reasons as women not opting for vaginal delivery, medicolegal problems, precious pregnancies, etc. women undergoing caesarean section have an increased risk of postoperative infection and infectious morbidity in comparison with women giving birth vaginally.<sup>[1]</sup> Caesarean sections have been shown to have nearly five instances the risk of postpartum infection as vaginal births (and this is with a coverage of antibiotics at caesarean section) and just over 75% occur after hospital discharge.<sup>[2]</sup> Infectious morbidity for the mother, consisting primarily of endomyometritis and wound infection remains a leading cause of post-operative complications<sup>[3]</sup> Prophylactic antibiotic treatment is use of antibiotics before, during, or after a diagnostic, therapeutic, or surgical procedure to prevent infectious complications. A Cochrane review from 2014 compared antibiotic prophylaxis with no prophylaxis and concluded that antibiotic prophylaxis decreased the risk for postpartal wound infection, endometritis and severe infectious complications by 60-70%. Prophylactic antibiotics are expected to work in conjunction with the antiseptic measures taken before and during The most commonly used varieties surgical procedure. of antibiotics are penicillins, cephalosporins, fluoroquinolones, tetracyclines and macrolides, with each class including many drugs.<sup>[4,56]</sup> Present comparative study become performed between injection Ceftriaxone single dose versus routine 5 day course of ampicillin and metronidazole in elective caesarean delivery patients at a tertiary care center

## 2. Material and Methods:

This comparative, prospective, hospital-based study become performed in the department of Gynaecology and Obstetrics, in patients posted for non-compulsory LSCS, BMI < 30, willing to participate in study & follow up for 3 months.

**Inclusion criteria-** Patients posted for elective LSCS, BMI < 30, willing to participate in study & follow up for 3 months. The caesarean was taken into consideration elective while the procedure became performed in the absence of labor and before rupture of membrane.

## Exclusion criteria-

(1) Women who had known or suspected hypersensitivity to cephalosporins

(2) Any co-existing diseases like diabetes mellitus, hypertension or cardiac problem that will require multi dose antibiotics.

(3) Surgical procedure exceeding more than 90 minutes and if blood loss was more than 1500ml.

## Methodology

Patients received information about objective of present study prior to surgery and a written informed consent become acquired. Baseline evaluation including vital signs, general physical, systemic and obstetric examination were performed. Routine blood (CBC, RBS,

RFT) and urine analysis & if required urine culture and sensitivity, high vaginal swab culture and sensitivity were done.

Patients have been randomly divided on alternate number basis, in 2 groups (group 1 and group 2) each consisted of 50 patients. Group 1 - patients received injection Ceftriaxone 1gm. intravenous stat at the time of induction of anesthesia. Group 2 - patients received intravenous ampicillin and metronidazole for 1 day followed through oral for next 4 days. Temperature monitoring, vital signs, abdominal, perineal examinations was carried out daily until 7 days. If body temperature become more than 101.0 F on 2 occasions 4 hours or more apart, excluding the night of surgery, it changed into considered as febrile morbidity and appropriate investigations were performed including urine culture, blood culture, high vaginal swab culture before starting suitable multi dose antibiotics. Wound became inspected for superficial or deep infection, any pus discharge, surgical site abscess formation, wound dehiscence, vault haematoma and pelvic abscess. At discharge, patients had been instructed to contact if they have any signs and symptoms of infection. All patients have been followed up to 3 months at monthly intervals. Incidence of postoperative morbidity (febrile morbidity and infectious morbidity such as wound infection, chest infection, UTI, pelvic abscess and dehiscence of scar) became primary outcome. Data was collected in pre-designed proforma & entered in SPSS for descriptive and analytical study.

## 3. Results

Patients have been randomly divided on alternate number basis, in 2 groups (group 1 Ceftriaxone 1gm iv stat and group 2 ampicillin and metronidazole for 5 days) each consisted of 50 patients. Mean age was  $24.9\pm3.8$  years in group 1 &  $23.2\pm3.2$  years in group 2. BMI at the time of admission was  $27.4\pm6.8$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> &  $28.3\pm6.2$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> in group 1 & 2 respectively. Mean duration of surgery was  $44.8\pm7.2$  min in group 1 &  $48.2\pm5.9$  min in group 2. Average blood loss was  $640\pm60$  ml in group-1 &  $680\pm76$  ml in groups- 2. Mean days of hospitalisation was  $4.9\pm3.8$  days &  $5.8\pm3.2$ days in group 1 & 2 respectively. History of previous laparotomy like LSCS, ectopic surgery, etc. Became present in 40 & 30 patients from group 1 & 2 respectively. Fever was most common morbidity noted (group 1 - 8 & group 2 -6) followed by urinary tract infection (group 1 - 5 & group 2 -6), wound infection, endometritis & early neonatal sepsis. Statistical difference between group 1 & 2 become non significant for all morbidities. 1 patient from each group required resuturing. No mortality was noted in present study.

	Group 1	Group 2
Mean age in years	24.9±3.8	23.2±3.2
BMI in kg/m <sup>2</sup>	27.4±6.8	$28.3 \pm 6.2$
Mean duration of surgery (min)	44.8±7.2	48.2±5.9
Mean blood loss (ml.)	640±60	680±76
Mean days of hospitalisation (days)	4.9±3.8	5.8±3.2
History of previous laparotomy	40	30

 Table 1: Characteristics of patients in two surgical groups

## 4. Discussion

Most of the envisioned 75,000 maternal deaths occurring worldwide every year due to infections are recorded in low-income countries. Even though the reported incidence in high

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income countries is relatively low (between 0.1 and 0.6 per 1000 births), it is however an important direct cause of maternal mortality.<sup>[7,8]</sup> Post-caesarean section infection is associated with obesity, immunosuppressive disorders, chorioamnionitis, rupture of membranes > 18 hours, corticosteroid therapy, staple suture wound closure, fewer prenatal care visits, repeat caesarean section, emergency caesarean section, length of surgery > 60 minutes, a prolonged labour, excessive blood loss during labour, delivery, or surgery, and failure to follow proper steps for wound care after leaving the hospital. Across the globe, SSIs are associated with increased morbidity and mortality; sequelae include revision surgeries, poor quality of lifestyles, prolonged antibiotic treatment and rehabilitation, and associated lost work and productivity. Furthermore, SSIs are related to a substantial economic burden to the healthcare system as a result of increased length of hospital stay and increased risk of readmission.<sup>[9]</sup> Present day strategies aimed at preventing SSIs include improved hygiene, aseptic surgical techniques, carrier screening, decolonization, application of antibiotics to the surgical site prior to wound closure, and intravenous antibiotic prophylaxis.<sup>[10]</sup>

At many institutes, prophylactic antibiotic was being administered after cord clamping, so that it did now not reach the foetal circulation. Concerns of masking signs of sepsis in infants, developing resistance to antibiotics and covering organisms in blood culture because of the transplacental transfer of the drug was the main reason for administration of the drug after cord clamping. however, recent studies suggested that, giving the drug prior to skin incision would significantly decrease the incidence of maternal infection with out causing harm to the infant.<sup>[11,12]</sup> Single dose antibiotic prophylaxis is well-established for abdominal and vaginal hysterectomy and cumulative meta analysis data indicate the same. Perioperative antimicrobial prophylaxis has been advocated in surgical procedures, but recent guidelines and publications showed that single dose antibiotic prophylaxis is equally effective in clean, and clean infected surgical procedures.<sup>[13]</sup> Following optionally available surgery, wound infection in patients who receive perioperative antibiotics (within 3 hours following skin incision) occurs in 1.4% compared to 0.6% in those who receive antibiotics within the 2 hours before skin incision.<sup>[14]</sup> In present study, there was no significant difference between groups, so single dose antibiotics is as effective as routine 5 days course. It reduces patient side effects, cost of treatment, staff work, etc. The administration of single dose antibiotic prophylaxis also reduces the load on the staff and decreased the costs, which is a good for low-resource settings and must be followed if the cost has to be decreased.<sup>[15]</sup> A study for assessment of prophylactic antibiotic in Caesarean section. <sup>[16]</sup> Found fever episode in 4% of cases, Endometritis and wound infection in 2% cases.<sup>[17]</sup> Not found any case of endometritis but wound infection episode was 0.93%. similar findings have been noted in present study.<sup>[18]</sup> A trend towards lower risk of urinary tract infection was seen with multiple dosing. Any other randomized, non-blinding clinical trial of 500 eligible participants compared IV single dose of gentamicin (3 mg/kg) plus metronidazole (500 mg) 30-60 minutes previous to CS with same regimen prior to the operation but continued for 24 hours.

Pre-operative single dose antibiotic prophylaxis for emergency caesarean showed a lower cumulative incidence of surgical-site infection, a reduced staff workload and a minimized medication cost compared to multiple doses till 24 hours.<sup>[19]</sup> While one meta-analysis, which become based solely on elective cesarean delivery, did now not find a risk reduction for any maternal outcome in favor of preoperative in evaluation with postoperative antibiotic prophylaxis.<sup>[20]</sup> With reference to the kind of antibiotic to be used for prophylaxis, systematic review of Cochrane database suggests that both cephalosporins and penicillins represent good choices for prophylaxis in women undergoing CS, although the bacterial resistance, impact on post-discharge maternal and infant infections aren't known. More costly extended-

spectrum penicillins, 2nd or 0.33 generation cephalosporins and combination regimens have now not been demonstrated to be more effective.<sup>[21]</sup>

## 5. Conclusion

This study shows single dose antibiotic prophylaxis is as effective as conventional multi dose antibiotic therapy. It is cost effective, antibiotic resistance of microorganisms can be prevented, reduces patient side effects, nursing staff work. In addition, knowledge of antibiotic susceptibility and resistant strains is to be considered while choosing antibiotic.

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