SUMMARY
AND
CONCLUSION
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The present study comprised of 25 cases of atrophic rhinitis in Bundelkhand region who attended the E.N.T. O.P.D. of M.L.B. Medical College, Hospital Jhansi, U.P. during the period of January 1998 to January 2000.

The present study revealed the following facts :-

1. The overall incidence of atrophic rhinitis was 0.5% in E.N.T., O.P.D. during the study period.

2. The incidence of atrophic rhinitis was found more in young adolescents. The youngest of the series was 11 years old and oldest was 68 years.

3. Females were affected more (72%) as compared to males (28%).

4. Majority of the cases belongs to Housewives (64%), Farmer (24%) and rest of cases were from students (8%), Bidi maker (4%).

5. Atrophic rhinitis was more common in Hindus (88%) and Muslims (12%).

6. Climate, poor hygienic and socio-economic conditions (80%), positive family history are all factors to be reckoned with this disease. Syphilis, leprosy and Tuberculosis were not a major factor in the incidence.
7. The presenting symptoms of atrophic rhinitis were crusting (100%), Foetor (100%) Anosmia (96%), Nasal blockage (92%), Dryness of throat (80%) and headache (76%).

8. Majority of the patients (56%) presented with disease since long duration.

9. On examination the most common findings were crust in the nose (100%), Foetor (100%), Dryness of nasal mucosa (100%), Widened nasal cavity (96%), Atrophy of turbinates (100%), Pale colour of nasal mucosa (96%) and atrophy of pharyngeal mucosa in (80%) cases.

10. Majority of the cases had bilateral atrophic rhinitis (96%) than the unilatreal (4%).

11. Prevalence of primary atrophic rhinitis was 88% and secondary atrophic rhinitis was 12%.

12. The commonest bacteria was isolated Pseudomonas aeruginosa (80%), followed by staphylococcus aureus (8%), rest were proteus mirabilis (4%), E. Coli (4%) and Sterile (4%).

13. Frontal sinus was normal in 1 (4%) small in 12 (48%) and absent in 12 (48%).

14. Most of the cases had small underdeveloped maxillary antra in 24 (96%) with thick bony walls and normal in one (4%).
15. The maxillary antrum was hazy in 32% cases, and frontal sinus in 16% cases. In remaining cases sinuses were clear.

16. Squamous metaplasia was found in 84% (21) cases, while transitory in 12% (3) cases.

17. Thin basement membrane was seen in 76% (19) cases and thick in 20% (5) cases.

18. Cell infiltration was seen in lamina propria. The lymphocytes were most predominant cells in 92% (23) cases followed by plasma cells in 8% (2 cases).

19. Dialated blood vessels were seen in 52% (13) cases followed by endarteritis in 32% (8) cases, Periarteritis was seen in 8% (2) cases.

20. Alveolar glands were absent in 52% (13) cases, reduced in size and number were seen in 40% (10) cases.

21. Fibrosis of lamina propria was mild degree in 48% (12) cases, moderate degree in 40% (10) cases and severe degree of fibrosis in 12% (3 cases).

The available literature regarding the clinical feature, bacteriological profile, aetiology and histopathology of atrophic rhinitis was reviewed and the findings of the present study were interpreted in the light of the same.