CONCLUSIONS
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Twenty five cases of measles who attended the Paediatrics O.P.D. Clinic in M.L.B. Medical College Hospital, Jhansi, were studied. Ten healthy children of comparable age and sex formed the control group. All cases were studied clinically in details. In each case, measles antibody titres and serum immunoglobulin concentrations (IgG, IgM & IgA) were determined. An attempt was made to establish a relation between the measles and immunoglobulin profile of these patients. The following conclusions were drawn:

1. Age incidence: More than 68% cases were below 4 years of age with highest incidence in 2 - 4 years age group (44%). No case was seen below 6 months of age. Younger age was more frequently associated with complications.

2. Boys were more commonly affected with a sex ratio of 1.2 : 1. No significant correlation was seen between complications and sex distribution of cases.

3. Nutritional status: Eighty percent of measles cases with complications were malnourished. All the 6 cases who had more than one complication were suffering from various grades of under-nutrition. Nutritionally
healthy children encountered complications less frequently and recovery was 100% in these cases.

4. Complications: Respiratory and gastro-intestinal complications were encountered most commonly and were present in 80% and 26.67% cases respectively. Neurological complications were also not uncommon and were seen in 13.33% of cases.

5. Subclinical infection: Twenty percent cases in control group without past history of measles or measles immunisation showed significant antibody titres against measles. It further strengthens the possibility of subclinical or unrecognised illness.

6. Serological study: No correlation could be made between antibody response and severity of the disease. Significant antibodies were also present in cases who subsequently died.

7. Mortality: Overall case fatality rate of 8% was seen. Both the deaths occurred in the group with complication of measles.

8. Immunoglobulin levels: Higher IgG & IgM immunoglobulin levels were seen in children with measles as compared to controls. Consistently lower IgA immunoglobulin levels were also seen.
The difference in IgG immunoglobulin levels were more pronounced in cases with complications (17.72 ± 1.914) as compared to uncomplicated measles cases (9.49 ± 2.063). But the difference was not significant for IgM immunoglobulin levels. Consistently, significantly lower IgA immunoglobulin levels were also seen in complicated and uncomplicated cases but the values were very much lower in complicated cases (0.819 ± 0.351).

These differences in immunoglobulin levels were more pronounced in cases with complications as compared to uncomplicated measles cases.

These variations in immunoglobulin levels in cases with complications and uncomplicated cases stresses the need for further studies in this field.