

## AN OBSERVATIONAL STUDY ON CLINICAL PROFILE OF PATIENTS WITH RENAL TRAUMA

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**Received: 10/01/2021**

**Revised:06/03/2021**

**Accepted: 22/03/2021**

### ABSTRACT

**Background:** the kidney is among the most common organ involved during abdominal trauma. Both conservative and surgical management are employed depending upon the grading of the injury clinical profile of the patient. **Methodology:** All the cases of renal trauma coming to the emergency room, aged more than 18 years during the period of January 2019 to December 2020 are included in the study. Detailed history & examination was done & the patient underwent CT for grading the injury. **Result:** The mean age of the patients was  $40.36 \pm 15.85$  years. 31(62%) had an injury on the left side. The most common associated injury was Rib fracture seen in 5 (10%) cases. On grading the renal injury according to the American Association for the surgery of trauma (AAST), it was found that 20 (40%) patients belonged to Grade II followed by 12 (24%) in Grade I, 8 (16%) in Grade III, 6 (12) patients in Grade IV & 4 (8%) patients belonged to Grade V. 41 (82%) patients were managed conservatively & in 9 (18%) patients surgical interventions were done. Double J stenting was done in 4 (44.44%) patients, Percutaneous drainage of the perinephric collection was done in 3 (33.33%) patients & in 2 (22.22%) patients Nephrectomy was done. The mean duration of stay in the hospital was  $11 \pm 5.65$  days. **Conclusion:** Conservative management is the treatment of choice for renal trauma & it is associated with less complication & decreased duration of stay.

**Keywords:** kidney, renal injury, Double J stenting, perinephric collection.

### INTRODUCTION

The Abdominal trauma accounts for 3% of all trauma cases. The frequency of genitourinary tract trauma is 10% (1). According to literature, renal trauma accounts for 1-5% of all trauma cases (2). Renal trauma can be either blunt or penetrating. Motor vehicle accidents fall from a height, and sports injuries lead to blunt trauma which results in sudden deceleration or crush injuries that may affect the renal parenchyma or the vascular pedicle. Penetrating renal injuries are caused by firearms, gunshot, and stab wounds. These cause direct damage to the parenchyma, excretory system, or vascular structures and even violation of the peritoneum (3).

According to the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST) Organ Injury Scale, the

renal injury was graded from Grade I to Grade V (4). This classification helps in standardizing different patient groups choosing appropriate therapy and in predicting the treatment outcome. As the severity of renal trauma varies significantly, the management of the injuries also varies. Both conservative & surgical treatment options are available for renal trauma. With the recent advancement in imaging techniques & interventional radiology, non-operative treatment has become the first choice of the surgeons (5). Various studies in the literature also recommend conservative treatment for both blunt & penetrating renal injuries (6,7). However, in case of hemodynamic instability immediate surgical intervention is recommended (8).

The present study is conducted to evaluate the clinical profile & treatment followed for the management of patients with renal trauma.

## METHODOLOGY

This cross-sectional study is conducted at the Department of Surgery, tertiary care centre, Udaipur. All the cases of renal trauma coming to the emergency room, aged more than two years during the period of January 2019 to December 2020 are included in the study. Written informed consent was taken from each study participant.

A detailed clinical history followed by a thorough examination of each case was done. Grading of renal injury, side of involvement, other associated injuries, treatment is given and length of hospital stay was recorded for each study participant. Computed tomography (CT) of all study participants, if hemodynamically stable was done for grading of renal injuries. Renal injury grading was done based on the American Association for the surgery of trauma (AAST) organ injury scale. Those study participants who were not responded to the conservative management were treated with operative procedures like double-J stenting, percutaneous nephrostomy, retrograde pyelogram, open drainage, percutaneous drainage of perinephric collection, renorrhaphy, and nephrectomy.

Data then collected was entered in Microsoft excel 2010 and analyzed using Primer version 6.

## RESULT

A total of 50 patients with renal trauma were enrolled in the study. Out of these 50, 35 (70%) were males & rest 15 (30%) were females. The mean age of the patients was  $40.36 \pm 15.85$  years. Considering the side of injury, 31(62%) had an injury on the left side, 17 (34%) patients had an injury on the right side & 2 (4%) patients had the bilateral renal injury. (Table 1)

In 16 (32%) patients, renal trauma was associated with other injuries. The most common associated injury was Rib fracture seen in 5 (10%) cases followed by Urinoma, Liver injury & Femoral fracture seen in 3 (6%) patients each. In 1 patient each, Rib fracture + urinoma & Pelvic fracture + pelvic hematoma were seen. (Table 1)

On grading the renal injury according to the American Association for the surgery of trauma (AAST), it was found that 20 (40%) patients belonged to Grade II followed by 12 (24%) in Grade I, 8 (16%) in Grade III, 6 (12) patients in Grade IV

& 4 (8%) patients belonged to Grade V (Table 2). 41 (82%) patients out of 50 were treated successfully with conservative management & in the remaining 9 (18%) patients surgical interventions were done. (Table 1)

Out of these 9 patients, Double J stenting was done in 4 (44.44%) patients, Percutaneous drainage of the perinephric collection was done in 3 (33.33%) patients & in 2 (22.22%) patients Nephrectomy was done. The mean duration of stay in the hospital was  $11 \pm 5.65$  days.

**Table 1- Distribution of study subjects according to the study parameters**

| Parameters                                      | Number (%)                              |
|---|---|
| <b>Sex</b>                                      | Male 35 (70%)                           |
|   | Female 15 (30%)                         |
| <b>Side of involvement</b>                      | Left 31(62%)                            |
|   | Right 17 (34%)                          |
|   | Bilateral 2 (4%)                        |
| <b>Associated injuries</b>                      | Rib fracture 5 (10%)                    |
|   | Urinoma 3(6%)                           |
|   | Liver injury 3(6%)                      |
|   | Femoral fracture 3(6%)                  |
|   | Rib fracture + urinoma 1(2%)            |
|   | Pelvic fracture + pelvic hematoma 1(2%) |
|   | None 34 (68%)                           |
| <b>Type of treatment</b>                        | Conservative 41 (82%)                   |
|   | Surgical 9 (18%)                        |
| <b>Mean duration of hospital stay (in days)</b> | 11.56 days                              |

**Table 2- Grading-wise distribution of study subjects.**

| <b>Grading of injury</b> | <b>Number (%)</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Grade I</b>           | 12 (24)           |
| <b>Grade II</b>          | 20 (40)           |
| <b>Grade III</b>         | 8 (16)            |
| <b>Grade IV</b>          | 6 (12)            |
| <b>Grade V</b>           | 4 (8)             |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>50 (100)</b>   |

## **DISCUSSION**

Renal trauma is one of the most common injuries encountered by the urologist. With time a lot is changed with the management of renal trauma, there is the shift from surgical management to non-surgical management of renal injuries. The present study including 50 patients with renal trauma was done to study the clinical profile of such patients in Rajasthan.

In the present study, the mean age of the patients was  $40.36 \pm 15.85$  years & maximum were male. Similar findings were seen in the study done by J B Narendra et al who reported that the mean age in their study was  $42.36 \pm 17.95$  years with male preponderance (9).

The current study showed that 31(62%) patients had an injury on the left kidney, 17 (34%) patients had injury on the right side & 2 (4%) patients had the bilateral renal injury. These results were similar to the study conducted by Sengupta et al who reported that the most common site involved was the left kidney (53.33%) & 46.67 % had right renal involvement. No bilateral injuries were seen (10).

The present study showed that the most common associated injury was Rib fracture seen in 5 (10%) cases followed by Urinoma, Liver injury & Femoral fracture seen in 3 (6%) patients each. In 1 patient each, Rib fracture + urinoma & Pelvic fracture + pelvic hematoma were seen. Similar observations were made by other authors (9,11). J B Narendra Et al showed in their study found that rib fracture was the most common injury (12.39%) followed by Urinoma & Liver injury in 6 patients each. Similar

results were obtained in a study conducted by Steve P et al among patients with renal injuries (11).

According to the American Association for the surgery of trauma (AAST) grading, in our study, it was found that 12 (24%) patients belonged to Grade I, 20 (40%) in Grade II, 8 (16%) in Grade III, 6 (12) patients in Grade IV & 4 (8%) patients belonged to Grade V. A systematic review of 605 articles reported that, of the 10,935 renal trauma patients, the distribution of renal injuries was Grade I (26%), Grade II (28%), Grade III (20%), Grade IV (19%), and Grade V (7%)<sup>13</sup>. These observations are in agreement with the present study.

In the present study, 41 (82%) patients out of 50 were managed conservatively & in the remaining 9 (18%) patients surgical inventions were done. Double J stenting was done in 4 (44.44%) patients, Percutaneous drainage of the perinephric collection was done in 3 (33.33%) patients & in 2 (22.22%) patients Nephrectomy was done. The mean duration of stay in the hospital was  $11 \pm 5.65$  days. Bjurlin et al in their study reported having managed 16.6% of patients surgically and 83.4% of patients conservatively (12). Similar results were obtained in a study conducted by JB Narendra et al among 121 patients with renal injuries and found that the majority of the patients (83.47%) with renal injuries were treated conservatively, whereas only 20 patients (16%) were managed operatively. The patients who had unsuccessful management with a nonoperative approach were treated with surgical procedures (retrograde pyelogram, double-J (DJ) stenting, percutaneous nephrolithotomy, open drainage, ultrasound-guided aspiration, and nephrectomy) (9).

## **CONCLUSION**

The primary goal of the urologist in case of renal trauma is to preserve the kidney. With the advancement in science, the mode of management of renal trauma has shifted from surgical to non-surgical treatment. Conservative management is the standard of treatment for all grades and modes of renal trauma as there are few complications & reduced duration of hospital stay. Although in the case of hemodynamically unstable patients, surgical interventions still remain the treatment of choice.

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| <p><b>How to cite this article:</b> Ranka K. An observational study on clinical profile of patients with renal trauma. <i>Int.J.Med.Sci. Educ</i> 2021;8 (1):87-90</p> |
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