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## **CA-125 just a tumor marker: A misnomer**

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**Background:** Cancer antigen-125 (CA-125) is a high molecular weight glycoprotein used as a marker for ovarian carcinoma. It is also known as mucin 16 or MUC 16, a protein that in human is encoded by MUC16 gene. However, its involvement is also observed in many benign conditions particularly in liver cirrhosis and ascites.

**Materials & Methods:** A total of 60 patients were enrolled in the study. They were divided into two groups- Group I -30 patients of chronic liver disease with ascites. The degree of ascites was graded to into mild, moderate and severe, Group II- 30 patients with acute liver disease without ascites. CA-125 levels were evaluated through Enzyme Linked Immunofluorescence Assay (ELIFA) and were compared with other liver parameters and USG findings of all the patients.

**Results & Discussion:** (30/30) chronic liver disease patients with ascites (Group-I) had CA-125 levels significantly elevated and it was related with the grades of ascites, whereas (28/30) patients without ascites (Group-II) had CA-125 levels under the normal range. However, the levels of CA-125 were significantly higher in patients with ascites compared to patients without ascites. The elevation of CA-125 in liver cirrhosis is related to the amount of ascites. Therefore CA-125 may be used as a predictor of ascites in patients with liver cirrhosis.

## **Biography**

Apoorva Bansal is currently working as a Resident at Swami Rama Himalayan University, at Dehradun, India. And her main area of research interest is tumor marker.

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