

## 9<sup>th</sup> Indo Global Summit on **Cancer Therapy**

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### **Epidemiological profile of gallbladder cancer patients from North Indian Gangetic plains - A tertiary care centre's experience**

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**Aim:** Gallbladder carcinoma (GBC), a relatively rare disease in the western world, is one of the most frequent neoplasms diagnosed in Northern India. GBC is the most common cancer of the biliary tree with universally poor prognosis. The incidence of GBC shows prominent geographic, age and gender-related differences. Understanding the epidemiology of gallbladder cancer has and will continue to provide valuable insights into determining causes and risk factors for gallbladder cancer. This initiated us to study the epidemiological aspects of the disease in our population subgroup.

**Objectives:** This prospective study was conducted with the purpose to investigate epidemiological profile of gallbladder carcinoma patients in North Indian patients.

**Methods:** A large, single center, prospective study of gallbladder cancer cases was conducted in King George's Medical University from December 2011 to December 2014 (three years). Case subjects with cytological confirmed gallbladder cancer were included in the study. The study included 245 patients and their history and clinical findings were tabulated and analyzed. A detailed questionnaire was prepared to record all the relevant patient details.

**Results:** A total of 245 patients [42 males and 203 females; Male: female ratio = 1: 4.8], were included in the study with mean age of 51.2 years. The peak incidence found was in 31-50 years age group [58%]. Most patients were from rural background [73%]. Gall stones were present in 195 out of 245 patients [80%]. Incidental gall bladder carcinoma was detected in 32% patients. Pain abdomen was the commonest recorded complaint in almost all GBC patients [100%] followed by palpable lump in right upper quadrant [19%], jaundice [10%] and ascitis [3%]. Nearly half of the patients with GBC presented with distant metastasis (n=128 patients; 52%). Most common histological type of GBC was adeno-carcinoma (78%). Majority of patients were vegetarians [67%] and 84% of them used mustard oil as main cooking medium. Around 38% of patients consumed tobacco, 20% were smokers and 5% were alcoholic. All male patients were smokers. GBC was predominantly observed in females with age of menarche <14 years [83%], age of 1st childbirth less than 20 years [56%]. Females with more than 2 children had higher incidence [57%] as compared to those with less than 2 children [43%].

**Conclusions:** GBC is a predominant disease of North Indian females of reproductive age group. Both the radiologists and surgeons should have a high index of suspicion for GBC in high incidence areas (Northern India) especially with typical clinical and ultrasound findings. More structured studies need to be carried out to ascertain risk factors for GBC in our population subgroup.

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