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Bleeding complications post ultrasound guided renal biopsy: A single centre experience from a developing country

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Renal biopsy is the diagnostic modality of choice for the diagnosis of renal parenchymal diseases. The aim of this study was to determine the frequency of bleeding complications in percutaneous ultrasound guided renal biopsy in order to establish a local perspective as there is a paucity of data in this regards from Pakistan, an underdeveloped country. A prospective study was conducted in hospitalized patients from January till December 2015 at Nephrology Department, Aga Khan University Hospital, Karachi, Pakistan. All biopsies were performed under real-time ultrasound guidance by a nephrologist. An automated biopsy gun (Bard Monopty gun) with 14 gauge biopsy needle was used. Minor complications were defined as : 1)Gross haematuria which did not require intervention such as blood transfusion or angiography. 2)Perinephric Hematoma < 5 cm in size on ultrasound imaging that did not need any intervention such as nephrectomy, angiography or blood transfusion. Major complications were: 1)Gross haematuria or perinephric hematoma with a fall in haematocrit $\geq 10\%$ from pre-biopsy level that require packed red blood cell transfusion, angiography or surgery or caused hypotension that require higher level of nursing care or need for vasopressor support A total of 220 patients were included. Mean age was 41.65 ± 8.627 years, 82 (37.2%) were male and 138 (62.8%) were female. pre and post biopsy haemoglobin, pre and post biopsy haematocrit was, 10.92 ± 1.25 and 10.60 ± 1.22 and 30.82 ± 4.73 and 30.49 ± 4.68 respectively. Out of 220 patients, 16 (7.27%) developed major complications and 26 (11.8%) developed minor complications. Percutaneous kidney biopsy is a relatively safe procedure. Complication rates following the procedure are minimal. All nephrology programs must train the trainees in performing biopsies, so that this investigation is more widely used.

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