Clinical Presentation, Histology And Outcomes of IgA Nephropathy: A Single Center Experience From Pakistan

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Background: Clinical presentation, kidney biopsy findings and clinical outcomes of IgA nephropathy (IgAN) are highly variable. The objective of this study is to study the clinical presentation, histologic patterns and outcomes of IgAN in Pakistani population, as no significant data is available in international literature from this part of the world.

Material and Methods: A retrospective chart review was conducted of all patients with biopsy proven IgAN between January 2007 and December 2017.

Results: Of a total of 977 renal biopsies, 50 patients had biopsy proven IgAN (5.1%). Median Age at the time of biopsy 34 years (27-42); 92% of patients were between 18-40 years. 38 (76%) were males. 92% of patients had significant proteinuria of greater than 1 gram/day with 32% having nephrotic range proteinuria. The mean estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) at presentation was 46.58 mL/min/1.73m². 78% of patients were hypertensive at the time of presentation and most of them had uncontrolled hypertension. The most common lesion on light microscopy was focal necrotizing GN with (26%) followed by mesangial expansion with segmental/global glomerulosclerosis (22%). Crescents were seen in 38% cases. Out of 52, at least 6 months follow-up was available for 32 patients. Out of 50, a follow-up of at least 6 months was available for 32 patients. Most of the patients who had an eGFR of less than 30ml/min at presentation progressed to kidney failure at six months follow up period.

Conclusion: IgAN usually presents in young male adults in the age range of 18-40 years with most patients having severe clinical presentation characterized by nephrotic-range proteinuria, hypertension, renal insufficiency and severe histological stages.