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Epidemioligic Study on Scorpion Sting Cases In Loghman-Hakim Hospital, Tehran,Iran: A Five Year Study

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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE: Iran in middle east region, has one of the highest frequency of scorpion stings in the world. Most scorpion stings are characterized by severe localized pain. There may be slight edema, pruritus, numbness, and occasionally small blisters at the bite site. Most envenomation are minor and can be treated symptomatically with analgesics, local wound care, tetanus prophylaxis, and a period of observation.

METHODS: In this retrospective study, all patients files in Loghman Hakim hospital was reviewed since march 2012 to February 2018.

RESULTS: Total of 199 patients were participated in this study, 62.8% these patients were male and 37.2% were female. 31.4% of these patient were between 20-30 years old and 18.3% of patient were under 10 years old. 75.5% of patient were from Tehran and environs and 24.5% from other provinces of Iran. 34% of patient had not seen the scorpion in the envenomation field. 39% of scorpions were yellow type and 25% of scorpion were black one. About 51% of stings were in lower extremities and 42% in upper limbs. The most common complaint was pain and burning sensation of bite site from the point of vital sign, hypotension was detected in 47% of all patients. 33% had erythema and hyperinflation of the site. Paresthesia was a positive symptom in 11% of all patients. leukocytosis was detected in 13.2% and thrombocytopenia in 2.7% and creatinin rise in 2%. Hypoglycemia in 25.6% and hyperglycemia in 33.1%.

CONCLUSION: Of 199 patients, 70.5% had grade one, 21.6% grade two, 7.4% grade three and 0.5% grade four of envenomation. All of the patients in this study 65 (32%) had received anti-scorpions and for 35%, analgesic was prescribed and also 12% recieved antibiotics, but finally all patients improved clinically. no mortality or morbidity was reported..