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Title: A study of etiological and clinical profile of community acquired pneumonia in a tertiary care hospital in Western India

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Body: Objectives:- To study the etiological and clinical profile of community acquired pneumonia (CAP) requiring hospitalization. Method(s):- 85 cases of CAP out of 103 cases of pneumonia admitted at Bharati Hospital, Pune were studied by a cross-sectional survey from August 2010 to August 2012.The clinical profile, organisms involved and the incidence of community acquired pneumonia(CAP) was evaluated. Result(s):-Gram negative bacilli were most commonly found in 35(34%) cases followed by gram positive cocci in 34(33%) cases. CAP accounted for 85(82.5%) cases followed by HAP in 10(9.7%) and VAP in 8(7.8%) cases. In CAP, Klebsiella spp. was isolated in 18 cases, Staphylococcus aureus in 13 and Streptococcus pneumoniae in 11 cases. On sputum culture, Klebsiella spp. species were found in 20 (19.42%) patients followed by Staphylococcus aureus in 14 (13.59%), pseudomonas in 5 (4.85%) and Streptococcus pneumoniae in 4 (3.88%) cases. No pathogen was grown in 27 (26.21%) cases. Fever (95.1%) was the most common symptom followed by cough (75.7%) and breathlessness (65%). Conclusion(s):- In the present study, gram negative organisms were more commonly isolated on sputum culture, so the empirical therapy in pneumonia should be directed also towards these organisms for a better outcome and there is need for further new diagnostic modalities for atypical pathogens causing pneumonias as isolation rate by conventional methods is very low.