Trends in oesophagogastroduodenoscopy in a tertiary health care facility in Lagos, Nigeria

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Introduction: Endoscopy of the intestinal tract is a useful technique to manage gastrointestinal diseases worldwide. The use of this procedure is progressively gaining ground in Nigeria. The centers and trained personnel available to render this service are inadequate to meet its current needs. This study is to highlight the trends in upper gastrointestinal endoscopy at the Lagos State University in the last 13 years.

Method: Data from patients who had upper gastrointestinal endoscopy from January, 2002 till December 2014 was obtained from the endoscopy unit register of the Gastroenterology unit, Lagos State University Teaching Hospital and analyzed using SPSS version 19.

Result: A total of 857 patients had oesophagogastroduodenoscopy during the period. The number of patients increased steadily each year. However, a sharp decline was observed in 2009 and 2010 when there was no endoscope available; the damaged ones were being replaced. The mean number of patients per year was 65.9±3.5. There were 483 (53.5%) males and 374 (46.5%) females. The mean age of the patients was 48.5±15.8. The indications were dyspepsia (524 H 61.1%), upper gastrointestinal bleeding (165 H 19.3%), retrosternal pain (112 H 14.2%), suspected cancer (73 H 8.5%), variceal screening (20 H 2.3%). There was no significant change in the proportions of the various indications throughout the period. The patients who were screened for suspected malignancy were the oldest while those who had dyspepsia and retrosternal pain were the youngest. There was no difference in the gender distribution throughout the period. The commonest abnormal findings were in the oesophagus in 393 (45.9%) of patients, gastric antrum 252 (29.5%) body of the stomach 233, first portion of the duodenum 216 (25.2%), fundus 191 (22.3%) and pylorus 129 (15.1%). Of the Patients with dyspepsia the abnormal findings were oesophageal erosion 23.9%, gastric fundus erosion 10.5%, gastric body erosion 11.8%, gastric ulcer 8.8%.

Conclusion: The trend in patients’ characteristics, indications and findings in oesophagogastroduodenoscopy remains unchanged in the last decade at the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital. Screening for varices is not a common indication for this procedure.
ABS/ 2015/ G H/ 002
Analysis of patients referred to the gastroenterology service of a University Teaching Hospital in Southwestern Nigeria

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Introduction: Worldwide, gastrointestinal diseases are a major source of burden on Health sector resources. The aim of this study was to assess the pattern of gastroenterology referrals and consultations as seen in the outpatient clinic of the University College Hospital Ibadan, Nigeria.

Methods: This was a retrospective observational study in which all the referrals to the outpatient gastroenterology clinic over a 12 month period (January 2014 to December 2014) were evaluated. Demographic factors and clinical diagnoses were retrieved using a clinical log-book. Data were recorded and analyzed using SPSS 21.

Results: Six hundred and ten patients referred to the gastroenterology clinic were evaluated. There were 319 males (52%) and 291 female patients (48%). The most frequent reasons for outpatient consultations were HBV infection (62.8%), Dyspepsia (21.8%), chronic liver diseases (3.6%) and Liver cancer (4.1%). The risk of dyspepsia related diseases occurring in females was 2.3 folds while HBV infection risk was 2.5 folds in males. Self employed patients had more frequent cases of HBV infection (30.1%) while unemployed patients had more cases of Liver disease (31.8%) and liver cancer (32.0%) respectively.

Conclusion: HBV infection, dyspepsia and chronic liver diseases are the commonest causes of gastroenterology consultation and may reflect the high burden of diseases in this population.

ABS/ 2015/ G H/ 003
Early experience with endoscopic gastric biopsy in Calabar

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Introduction: Upper Gastrointestinal (GI) endoscopy is the gold standard for the diagnosis of upper GI diseases. There is no data from Calabar on endoscopic gastric biopsies in the literature. Early diagnosis of gastric cancer improves prognosis and gastroscopy is key to achieving this goal.

Aim: The aim of this presentation is to share our initial experience with endoscopic gastric biopsy for gastric lesions in Calabar.

Methodology: All patients with gastric lesions seen at gastroscopy other than gastritis were reviewed. Lesions reviewed were tumours, polyps and ulcers. Biopsies were taken for histology. The data covers from August 2012 to October, 2014.

Results: A total of 16 patients qualified for inclusion. There were 11 females and 5 males. Eleven of these patients had histologically confirmed malignant gastric lesions while 5 patients had benign lesions. Amongst the malignant group, 10 patients (91%) had histologically confirmed gastric adenocarcinoma while 1 patient (9%) had a gastric lymphoma. The male to female ratio in the malignant group was 1:1.8 and 1:4 for the benign group. The mean age for patients with malignant gastric lesion was 54.2 years.

Conclusion: Adenocarcinoma is the commonest histologically diagnosed gastric lesion (excluding gastritis) from endoscopic biopsies in Calabar.

ABS/ 2015/ G H/ 004
Prediction of large oesophageal varices using platelet count and splenic size in patients with liver cirrhosis with or without malignant transformation

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Background: Most international guidelines recommend upper gastrointestinal endoscopy for all
patients with liver cirrhosis at diagnosis to screen for oesophageal varices. However, subjecting all the patients with liver cirrhosis to endoscopy may not be cost effective, as the prevalence of large oesophageal varices is only 9-30%. Identifying simple, available, affordable and less invasive parameters that can select a group of patients with high probability of having large oesophageal varices, who will then go for endoscopy, will be a more cost effective approach.

Objectives: objectives of study were (1) To determine the sensitivity and specificity of platelet count for large oesophageal varices (2) To determine the sensitivity and specificity of splenic size for large oesophageal varices

Methods: Seventy three patients with chronic liver disease and forty apparently healthy controls were recruited. All the patients and controls had platelet count and ultrasound determined splenic size. The patients also had upper gastrointestinal endoscopy to determine the presence and size of oesophageal varices.

Results: Platelet count of equal to or less than 150,000 cells/ml had a sensitivity, specificity and negativity predictive value of 75%, 53%, and 76% respectively as a predictor of large oesophageal varices among all the patients. Splenic size of equal to or greater than 126mm had a sensitivity, specificity and negative predictive value of 75%, 73%, and 80% respectively for large oesophageal varices among patients with liver cirrhosis only.

Conclusion: Platelet count is a good predictor of large oesophageal varices among patients with liver cirrhosis with or without malignant transformation Bipolar splenic size is a good predictor only in patients with liver cirrhosis.

Background: Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease is a common disease of the gut in the western world. There is paucity of population based data on its prevalence and association with various food and beverages in Nigeria.

Objectives: 1. To determine the prevalence of GERD among public teachers in Abeokuta 2. To determine the association between GERD and selected foods and beverages

Methodology: The study involved 550 teachers who were selected from 20 randomly selected primary and secondary schools in Abeokuta. Each respondent had anthropometric parameters measured. A score of 4 and above on the Carlsson-Dent questionnaire was considered diagnostic of GERD. SPSS was used for statistical analysis. Chi square was used to test the association between GERD and selected food and beverages. P value less than 0.05 was considered significant.

Result: The prevalence of GERD was found to be 13.4% among the teachers. There was a significant association between chocolate consumption and frequency of GERD with a p value of 0.01. The study did not find any association between GERD and the consumption of salt drinks, kola nut, beer, bitter kola, ground nut, cowpeas, walnut, gari, fufu, and cassava flour. No association was found between obesity and frequency of GERD.

Conclusion: GERD is common in Nigeria with a prevalence of 13.8% among public school teachers in Abeokuta. There was a significant association between consumption of chocolate and frequency of GERD among the respondents.

ABB/2015/GH/005

The prevalence of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease and its association with selected food and beverages items among public schools teachers in Abeokuta

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ABB/2015/GH/006

Clinico-epidemiologic profile of lassa fever in Ebonyi State: A 10 year study

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Background: Many studies have reported on outbreaks of Lassa fever, but there are very few reports on the clinico-epidemiological profile and case notification dynamics of Lassa fever in West Africa. We describe the clinico-epidemiological profile, case notifications, and outcomes of Lassa fever in Ebonyi State, Nigeria over a ten-year period (2005 – 2014).

Methods: A retrospective cohort study of Lassa fever cases managed at the Federal Teaching Hospital Abakiliki, Ebonyi State between 2005 and 2014 was carried-out. The patients’ clinical profiles and final outcomes were summarised. Data analysis was performed using EpiInfo

Results: Over the ten-year period (2005-2014), 82 cases of Lassa fever were notified. Of these 50 (61%) were suspected and 32 (39%) confirmed. The male: female ratio of the notified cases was 1.3: 1 with an overall case fatality rate of 30.5%. Although the epidemic skipped some years, case notification significantly increased (Chi-square for trends 7.4; P = 0.006); while no significant change in case fatality rates occurred over the period (Chi-square for trends 0.15; P = 0.7). The most common symptoms at presentation were fever (100%), headache (95%), abdominal pain (93%), sore throat (83%), and vomiting (70%). Most cases occurred late in the dry season (January-February) and in late rainy/ early dry season (August to November).

Conclusion: Increasing awareness of Lassa fever, the availability of diagnostic laboratories in the country, and changing epidemic patterns may have contributed to increased cases and temporal fluctuations in disease frequency. Strategies for early detection and treatment are needed for improved patient outcomes.

 ABS/2015/GH/007

Colonic schistosomiasis: a case report of a Nigerian

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Introduction: Intestinal disease is commonly produced by Schistosoma mansoni and Schistosoma japonicum. Viable ova of the organism produce inflammation, formation of granuloma, ulcers, haemorrhage and colonic fibrosis with subsequent long-term sequelae. We present the case of a Nigerian with colonic polypoid masses which turned out to be Schistosoma mansoni infection.

Case Presentation: A 29 year-old man presented with recurrent diarrhoea of 2 years duration. The stool was watery, mucoid but not bloody, up to four times per day with tenesmus, no undigested food particles. He had a right lower abdominal pain and weight loss. No vomiting, anorexia or fever. He was chronically ill-looking with finger clubbing and mild dehydration. Abdomen, chest and cardiovascular system were unremarkable. Digital Rectal Examination (DRE) revealed polypoid masses in the rectum. Vital signs were normal. The assessment was Inflammatory Bowel Disease with a differential diagnosis of Colonic Polyposis.

Colonoscopy: Multiple entangled pedunculated polypoid masses were seen in the rectum and sigmoid colon from which biopsies were taken (Figures 1&2). Histology revealed mild chronic inflammation of the stroma of the colonic wall with several structures reminiscent of sections of integument of a worm within the intestinal wall. Stool microscopy revealed ova of Schistosoma mansoni with pus and red blood cells. Patient was placed on Praziquantel at a dose of 20 mg/kg as a single dose.

Conclusion: Colonic schistosomiasis should be considered as one of the differential diagnoses in a patient presenting with chronic diarrhoea and polypoid masses in the rectosigmoid colon.

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Implication of assay of hbsag and anti-hbc among different professions of healthcare workers in a Nigerian tertiary hospital

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Background/Introduction: Definition of the gravity of HBV infection among healthcare workers (HCWs) is needed because of high risk of exposure during duty schedules.

Aims and objectives: Determination of the implication of assay of anti-HBc (total) and HBsAg among different professional groups of HCWs in a Nigerian tertiary health facility.

Methodology: The blood specimen of 789 volunteer HCWs were screened for the presence of HBsAg and anti-HBc total by ELISA.

Results: The sero-prevalence rate of HBsAg in 789 HCWs was 6.2% (4.3% also seropositive for anti-HBc). Of those HBsAg sero-negative for HBsAg, 55.4% were anti-HBc sero-positive. Early acute HBV infection (lone HBsAg) was commonest and rarest among the Laboratory scientists (6.1%) and hospital maids (0.7%) respectively. Combined HBsAg & anti-HBc (late acute or chronic HBV infection) was highest (10.3% - maintenance staff) and lowest (2.8% - doctors) while occult HBV infection or natural immunity was present among each professional group, commonest among the pharmacist (70%) and lowest among the Laboratory technologists (42.4%). The rates of exposure to HBV were between 47.1% (paramedical staff) and 76.9% (maintenance staff) while susceptibility to HBV infection was the reverse.

Conclusions: Assay of HBsAg alone is grossly deficient than its combination with anti-HBc total in determining issues on HBV infection hence further serological assays are still needed.

Determination of minimal serological markers for detection of HBV infection in Nigerians

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Background/Introduction: Assay of HBsAg has been routinely carried out to diagnose hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection but the natural history of the infection has shown this to be inaccurate, hence efforts should be directed at truly determining the presence of the infection.

Aims and objectives: Determination of the value of some serological markers of HBV at accurately detecting the HBV infection in Nigerians.

Methodology: The blood specimen of 92 volunteer adult Nigerian healthcare workers (HCWs) were screened for the presence of HBsAg, anti-HBc IgM & Total, HBeAg, anti-HBe and anti-HBs using Enzyme Linked Immuno-sorbent Assay.

Results: The HCWs aged 19-60 years with male:female ratio of 2:1. The detection rates of HBsAg, anti-HBc IgM & Total, HBeAg, anti-HBe and anti-HBs were respectively 18.5%, 1.1%, 12%, 3.3%, 13% and 27.2% while lone markers were only anti-HBs (17.4%), HBsAg (9.8%), and anti-HBc Total (8.7%). There were combinations of HBsAg & anti-HBe, anti-HBc IgM & HBeAg, HBeAg & anti-HBs, anti-HBe & anti-HBs and anti-Hbc Total & anti-HBs in 8.7%, 1.15, 2.2%, 4.3% and 3.3% of the subjects respectively whereas only 44.6% were sero-negative for all the markers.

Conclusions: HBV infection is highly endemic among Nigerian HCWs and HBsAg, anti-HBc Total, anti-HBc IgM and anti-HBs are the required minimum serological markers for detection of exposure to the infection among the population.
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ABS/ 2015/ G H/ 010
Ileocaecal tuberculosis mimicking crohn’s disease in a Nigerian

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Introduction: Terminal ileum and ileocaecal region are most commonly affected by both tuberculosis and Crohn’s disease. Colonoscopy is one of the ways of diagnosing both colonic tuberculosis and Crohn’s disease. We present a Nigerian with ileocaecal TB which mimicked Crohn’s disease at colonoscopy.

Case Presentation: A 23-year old man presented with recurrent abdominal pain and weight loss of 7 months. Abdominal pain was located at the epigastric area and radiated to the right iliac fossa. He had non-mucoid, non-bloody and non-foul smelling stools. He had progressive weight loss, nausea, bloating, anorexia and a non-productive cough, but no drenching night sweats. He was chronically ill-looking, febrile, pale, anicteric, no peripheral lymph node enlargement, no pedal edema. Abdominal examination revealed tenderness in the right iliac fossa, no palpable organomegaly. Digital Rectal Examination (DRE) was essentially normal. RR-26 cpm, Pulse-120 bpm, normal volume, BP- 80/60mmHg. Colonoscopy revealed polyoid lesions in the caecum, deformed and polyoid ileocaecal valve, and cobble stone appearance in the ileum.

The clinical diagnosis was Ileocaecal lymphoma and the differentials were Tuberculosis and Crohn’s disease. The histology showed diffuse transmural infiltration by lymphocytic cells based on which a tentative diagnosis of lymphoma was made, but was not confirmed by immunohistochemistry. A consideration of Crohn’s disease was then made. Because of the extent of caecal and ileal involvement, and unresolving abdominal pain, ileocaecal resection was performed and the histology revealed tuberculosis.

Conclusion: This has shown the usefulness of immunohistochemistry in identifying suspected lymphoid neoplasms and the pitfalls of endoscopic biopsy.

ABS/ 2015/ G H/ 011
Knowledge of hepatitis B virus infection among traders in Calabar metropolis

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Introduction: Hepatitis B virus (HBV) is a public health problem in Nigeria with 13% of its general population having evidence of a previous or current infection. Lack of awareness of HBV, its risk factors and its consequences are recognized as major deterrents to adopting positive preventive behavior, including immunization, among HBV high risk groups.

Objective: To evaluate the knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) of HBV infection among traders in Calabar metropolis

Methods: A structured KAP questionnaire on HBV infection was administered to traders as part of the activities to mark the World Hepatitis Day in 2014. A score was created for the correct answer to 20 questions.

Results: A total of 335 traders in the central market in Calabar metropolis were interviewed for this study. The mean age was 33.08±13.8years and the median age was 29years. There were 165 males and 170 females. Majority had secondary education (57.1%) and was of the Ibibio and Igbo tribes. Only 10.4% reported having received HBV vaccine. A minority of the traders (44.2%) reported having any knowledge of hepatitis B virus. The most common source of the knowledge was television/ radio (61/148) and hospitals (56/ 148). The median and inter-quartile range of the overall KAP score was low (11, 5-16). The score was least in persons aged 35years and above but the difference was not statistically significant (p= 0.33).

Conclusion: The knowledge of hepatitis B virus is low among traders in Calabar metropolis. There is need to intensify educational campaigns for the general public.

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**Keywords:** Hepatitis B virus, Knowledge, Attitude and Practice, Traders, Calabar Metropolis

**ABS/ 2015/ G H/ 012**

**Prevalence of helicobacter pylori infection among patients with dyspepsia as seen at the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, Ilorin**

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**Background/Introduction:** There are several hospital-based studies on H. pylori prevalence from different parts of Nigeria. However, data is scanty from the North-Central zone of the country.

**Aims and Objectives:** To determine the prevalence of H. pylori infection in dyspeptic patients seen at a tertiary hospital in this zone, and to assess its relationship with gastroduodenal pathologies using histology of gastric biopsies.

**Methodology:** One hundred and forty eight adult patients with dyspepsia underwent oesophago-gastroduodenoscopy. Antral and corporal biopsy specimens were collected for histological examination. Diagnosis of H. pylori infection was made if Helicobacter-like organisms were identified in the processed specimens using Haematoxilin and Eosin, and Giemsa stains.

**Results:** Of the 148 subjects studied, 68 (46.0%) were males and 80 (54.0%) females. The age range was 18 to 80 years with a mean of 49.5 ±15.1 years. H. pylori infection was found in 70 (47.3%) patients. Gastritis was the commonest endoscopic finding, 94 (63.5%). Others included: normal findings 20 (13.5%), gastric cancer 11 (7.4%), duodenal ulcer 10 (6.8%) and gastric ulcer 4 (2.7%). Forty-seven (50.0%) of the 94 patients with gastritis were infected with H. pylori compared to 8 (32.0%) of the 25 patients with other lesions (gastric ulcer, duodenal ulcer and gastric cancer). Seven (35.0%) of the 20 patients who had normal endoscopic findings tested positive for H. pylori infection.

**Conclusion:** H. pylori infection has a moderately high prevalence among dyspeptic patients in Ilorin, irrespective of the gastroduodenal pathology seen at endoscopy. The association between H. pylori infection and endoscopic gastroduodenitis and histological gastritis was significant.

**ABS/ 2015/ G H/ 013**

**Relationship between viral road, fibroscan and serum alanine transaminase in patients with chronic viral hepatitis**

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**Introduction:** Evaluation of patients with chronic viral hepatitis includes serial biochemical and radiological investigations both for guiding therapy and estimating prognosis. Liver stiffness measurement by transient elastography is a validated method for noninvasively staging liver fibrosis and it has been shown that most hepatic complications occur in patients with advanced fibrosis.

**Aim:** The aim of this study was to correlate liver stiffness measurement by transient elastography (FIBROSCAN) with viral load and serum alanine transaminase (ALT) in patients with chronic viral hepatitis.

**Methods:** Study population consisted of 30 patients with chronic viral hepatitis either B OR C without symptoms. None of the patients had received antiviral treatment at the time of the study. Liver stiffness measurement was carried out using Echosens machine E100M002.13 VERSION 1B and 10 successive readings recorded. The results of the liver stiffness measurement were then compared with the viral load and the alanine transaminase.

**Results:** Study population comprised of 30 adult patients, 21 males (70%). The mean age of the population was 37.03 (9.40) years and the mean BMI was 21.9 (2.96) kg/ m². 19 (63.33%) had a high viral
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load while 11 (36.67%) had low viral load. 12 (40%) had minimal or no fibrosis, 4 (13.33%) had moderate fibrosis while 14 (46.67) had severe fibrosis. 18(60%) had normal serum ALT, 12(40%) had elevated ALT. There was no statistically significant correlation between serum ALT and fibrosis stage and between viral load and fibrosis stage (rp=0.2), p =0.3.

Conclusion: Evaluating patients with chronic viral hepatitis is not complete without liver stiffness measurement as patients with low viral load and normal ALT may have high degree of fibrosis.

ABS/ 2015/ GH/ 014
Characteristics of hepatocellular carcinoma in two tertiary hospitals in Nigeria

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Introduction: Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is the sixth most common cancer and the second most common cause of cancer-related death. In Nigeria, as in other countries in Africa, the majority of HCC is attributed to chronic hepatitis B and C virus infection.

Objectives: The aim of this study is to describe the demographic and clinical characteristics of HCC in two tertiary hospitals in Nigeria.

Methods: This was a retrospective study. A structured questionnaire was used to abstract information on the age, gender, symptoms at presentation, mode of diagnosis of HCC in all adult patients seen at the University Of Calabar Teaching Hospital and Specialist Hospital, Lafia from September 2011 to April, 2015

Results: A total of 66 patients with a diagnosis of HCC were recruited into this study. They were 41 males and 25 females with a M:F ratio of 1.6 : 1. The mean age was 44.1±15.9years. Diagnosis of HCC was made by abdominal ultrasound examination in 84.8% of the patients with majority showing multiple lesions in both lobes of the liver. Only 12.1% had liver biopsy. The mean Child-Pugh score was 8 with 58% of the patients in class B. HBsAg and anti-HCV seropositivity was documented in 52.5% and 13.6% of the patients respectively. HBsAg positivity was associated with younger age of onset of HCC compared to HCV (39.7+16.1years vs 59.8+13.7 years). The difference was statistically significant (p= 0.004).

Conclusion: HCC affects young Nigerians and most cases present with advanced disease. Surveillance of patients with chronic hepatitis B and C infection is advocated to aid early diagnosis.

ABS/ 2015/ GH/ 015
Her-2 over-expression in gastric carcinomas in Lagos: A 5 year retrospective study

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Background/ Introduction: Gastric carcinoma is the second most common digestive tract cancer and the third leading cause of cancer-related death worldwide. In Nigeria, it is a major contributor to cancer-related mortality. There is a recent interest in studying the benefits of targeted therapy in its management using anti-HER-2 monoclonal antibody because of the increased overall survival when used in combination with chemotherapy.

Aims and Objectives: The objective of this study was to determine the frequency of HER-2 over-expression in gastric carcinomas in Lagos, comparing it with known pathologic and prognostic factors and also with similar available studies.

Materials and Methods: The clinical data were retrieved from two laboratories in Lagos (Lagos University Teaching Hospital and The Specialist Laboratories) involved in the study. Haematoxylin & Eosin slides were made from the patients’ formalin fixed paraffin embedded blocks and were reviewed to confirm diagnosis and pathological parameters. HER-2 over-expression was assessed by staining with anti-HER-2 antibody. The data was analysed using SPSS 16 to correlate HER-2 over-expression and the pathological features of the carcinomas.

Results: Of the 54 cases, 42 were biopsies and 12 were gastrectomies. The mean age was 55.96 years.
The male to female ratio was 3.2:1. Majority of the carcinomas were of intestinal type (83.3%), with diffuse, mixed and indeterminate types accounting for 13%, 1.9% and 1.9% respectively. Almost half of the cases (44%) were of the moderately differentiated grade and patients who had gastrectomies presented mostly with stage T3 disease (75%). HER-2 was over-expressed in 13% of cases, with one equivocal case. There were no statistically significant associations between the variables tested (histotype, grade, stage), although most cases over-expressing HER-2 were of the intestinal type.

**Conclusion:** HER-2 over-expression occurs in a small percentage of gastric carcinomas in Lagos and is independent of most of the pathological parameters, although most of the cases with HER-2 over-expression are of the intestinal histotype. Further work, with larger cohort, is needed to better characterize the possible prognostic benefits of targeted anti-HER-2 therapy in gastric carcinomas.

**ABS/2015/GH/016**

**Rectal cancer in a 13 year old Nigerian child: A rare finding at colonoscopy**

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**Introduction:** Colorectal cancer is rare in children constituting less than 1% of all neoplasms in the first two decades of life. On account of its rarity, children with lower gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms are often treated for other disease conditions that are common in the paediatric age group and colonoscopy is often not considered in their evaluation.

**Aim:** The aim of this presentation is to draw attention to the existence of this condition in our environment and to encourage those caring for paediatric patients to utilize endoscopy routinely where indicated, to enhance early diagnosis and improve prognosis.

**Methodology:** This is a case report of a 13-year-old boy referred to JIL Endoscopy for colonoscopy by a Paediatrician from the University of Uyo Teaching Hospital. He was referred on account of recurrent rectal bleeding and abdominal pain of more than 1 year duration. The patient had high definition video colonoscopy done at JIL Endoscopy.

**Results:** At colonoscopy, a large circumferential fungating tumour was seen in the proximal rectum. Histology confirmed rectal cancer.

**Conclusion:** Colorectal cancer, as rare as it may be in children, should be excluded in paediatric patients presenting with lower G1 symptoms. Routine lower G1 endoscopy should be done where facilities and the expertise are available.

**ABS/ 2015/G H/ 017**

**Patterns of liver stiffness measurement (LSM) using fibroscan in assessing hepatic fibrosis in patients with chronic viral hepatitis B and C**

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**Background:** Transient elastography (TE) is a non-invasive, accurate and reproducible test of liver fibrosis. Assessment of the stage of liver fibrosis plays a prominent role in the decision process of treatment in chronic viral hepatitis.

**Objective:** To determine the prevalence of hepatic fibrosis in patients with chronic viral hepatitis

**Method:** This is a cross sectional descriptive study involving 61 patients with chronic hepatitis B (CHB) and hepatitis C (CHC). Patients will be assigned to different fibrosis stages according to their TE results in conformity with previously published cut-off values. Patients with TE results < 7.5 kPa will be assigned to fibrosis stage F0/F1, patients with TE results ≥ 7.5 kPa will be assigned to Fibrosis stage F2, patients with TE values ≥ 9.5 kPa to stage F3 and patients with TE values ≥ 12 kPa to stage F4. Liver stiffness measurement of 7.5 and 12.0 kPa will be used as cut-off for significant fibrosis and cirrhosis respectively.

**Results:** There were 46 (75.4%) males and 15 (24.59%) females. 50 (81.9%) of the patients had CHB while 11 (18.03%) had CHC. 42 (68.85%) of the patients had
F0/F1 fibrosis while 10(16.39%), 4(6.56%) and 5(8.20%) had F2, F3 and F4 fibrosis respectively. A total of 19(31.15%) patients had significant fibrosis.

**Conclusion:** The prevalence of significant hepatic fibrosis in patients with chronic viral hepatitis is seen to be high from this study. So assessment of hepatic fibrosis will aid in the management and follow up of patients with chronic viral hepatitis.

ABS/2015/GH/018

**Unusual presentations of intestinal obstruction**

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**Background/Introduction:** Intestinal obstruction is a common presentation to the general surgeon or gastroenterologist. Unlike many cases of adhesive obstruction in which patients may do well on non-operative management, most often than not, surgery is required. The advent of advanced diagnostic modalities has made it easier to confirm the likely cause of obstruction thus avoiding the need for an exploration. Here we present three cases of unusual causes of intestinal obstruction:

**Case A:** A middle aged woman with an eight-month history of recurrent abdominal pain presented with features of intestinal obstruction and palpable right lower abdominal quadrant mass suspected to be a cecal pole tumour. Intra-operative she was found to have adhesive obstruction due to an appendiceal mass.

**Case B:** A 65yr old woman presented with features of intestinal obstruction. She was found to have adhesions involving the terminal ileum with multiple yellowish nodules on the mesentery which were biopsied. The operation-site failed to heal while the biopsy result revealed tuberculosis. The wound healed by tertiary intention within two weeks of antikoch's therapy.

**Case C:** A 75yr old man presented with features of intestinal obstruction. Surgery was performed with a provisional diagnosis of volvulus to keep in view colonic tumour. At surgery, the patient had completely peritonealised large bowel (ascending and descending colon not fixed) with an ileo-colic volvulus.

**Conclusion:** Two of these lesions were medical in origin. Physicians need to be aware of uncommon causes of intestinal obstruction thus keeping them in mind in the care of parents.