

Bacteriuria in patients with glomerular diseases

Abstract:

In a comparative study of significant bacteriuria in an African population, 1.7% of 697 healthy subjects (10 females and 2 males) were found to have positive urine cultures. Of these, 5 subjects grew *E. coli*, 4 *Klebsiella* strains, 2 *Staphylococcus aureus* and 1 *Serratia marcescens*. Among 116 patients with glomerular disease, 15.5% (7 males and 11 females) yielded positive cultures. *E. coli*, *Staph. aureus* and *Proteus* species were commonly isolated organisms. There was a nine fold increase in prevalence of bacteriuria in patients with glomerular disease and in females, this correlated with the amount of protein lost per 24 hours. It is postulated that the presence of protein in urine per se favours bacterial growth and because of the high prevalence of bacteriuria in patients with glomerular disease, it is recommended that all such patients should be screened and treated appropriately