Spectrum of hemostatic derangements

Pati, HP; Dayal, S; Srivastava, A; Pande, GK; Acharya, KS

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Abstract:

BACKGROUND: Hemostatic abnormalities have been reported in various hepatocellular diseases. We evaluated the hemostatic functions in patients with Budd-Chiari syndrome. METHODS: Biochemical liver function tests, and measurement of prothrombin time, activated partial thromboplastin time, and plasma levels of anti-thrombin III (antigen) and activity of protein C were done in 36 patients with Budd-Chiari syndrome. RESULTS: Liver biochemistry was abnormal in 34 patients. Plasma prothrombin time and activated partial thromboplastin time were prolonged in 17 (47%) and 23 (64%) patients, respectively. Antithrombin III antigen levels and protein C activity were reduced in 15 (50%) and 25 (83%) patients, respectively, among the 30 patients studied. Albumin levels showed significant correlation with coagulation test results, levels of anti-thrombin-III, and protein C activity. CONCLUSION: Hepatic synthesis of coagulation factors and anticoagulants is reduced in Budd-Chiari syndrome; this may play a role in recurrence of thrombosis.