EVALUATION OF SCROTAL LESIONS BY GRAY SCALE ULTRASONOGRAPHY AND COLOUR DOPPLER

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

Until the mid 1970’s, scrotal examination was limited to palpation and transillumination. Miskin and Bain (1974) first reported the use of Ultrasonography to examine testes and scrotum. With advancement like colour Doppler, ability to assess testicular vascularity increased. Although other radiological investigations have roles in specific situations, present study was undertaken to evaluate the usefulness and accuracy of sonography and colour Doppler in scrotal abnormalities.

METHODS

The study was conducted in the Department of Radiodiagnosis, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Saket, New Delhi, between May 2012 and May 2013. Prospective study carried out in 100 patients after proper informed and written consent with inclusion criteria of ‘All age patients with clinical suspicion of scrotal pathology’ and exclusion criteria of ‘History of operative or therapeutic procedures on the scrotum with exception of vasectomy.’ These patients’ scrotums were scanned in various plan on “Voluson 730 PRO” (GE Healthcare) system and LOGIC E-9 (GE Healthcare) using linear probe (As applicable) with comparison from asymptomatic side. Relevant other radiological and pathological investigations were done wherever indicated.

RESULTS

Majority of patients were between 21-40 years of age (62%) with commonest presenting complaint was scrotal swelling in 73%. Fluid collections were the commonest abnormality detected on sonography. Hydrocele was the most frequent fluid collection seen in 38 cases (26.3%). In acute inflammation, hypoechogenicity of the testes was most common sonographic feature. In our study, ultrasound showed 99% accuracy to distinguish between Intratesticular and Extratesticular pathology.

CONCLUSIONS

High-resolution USG with colour Doppler can reliably define the morphological features and vascularity of scrotal lesions. USG is highly accurate in evaluating the consistency of scrotal mass and in localizing scrotal abnormality. Ultrasound evaluation of the scrotum must include colour Doppler imaging of testis and epididymis with comparison from the asymptomatic side.

KEYWORDS

High resolution ultrasonography, Colour Doppler, Hydrocele, Varicocele, Scrotal Wall Oedema.


INTRODUCTION

Until 1970’s examination of the scrotal contents was limited to palpation and transillumination. Miskin and Bain (1974) first reported the use of B (Brightness)-mode Ultrasonography (USG) to examine testes and scrotum. USG have following advantages—High frequency transducers, haemodynamic information, low cost and rapidity in examination and freedom from radiation hazards.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To evaluate spectrum of ultrasonographic findings in various scrotal pathologies.
2. To evaluate value of colour Doppler in distinguishing and characterizing the blood flow patterns in scrotal pathologies.
3. To assess the role of high frequency real time ultrasonography to accurately distinguish between Testicular and Extratesticular scrotal masses.

METHODS

The study will be conducted in a tertiary referral teaching hospital; 100 patients were enrolled in the study after proper informed and written consent during the period of study with the following inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Inclusion Criteria

- Patients with all age groups.
- Patients with strong clinical suspicion of scrotal pathology referred for scrotal duplex sonography.

Exclusion Criteria

- Patients with previous history of operative or therapeutic procedures on the scrotum with exception of vasectomy.

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METHOD OF EXAMINATION
Sonography and Colour Doppler Technique

The examination was performed in a setting that affords adequate comfort and privacy to patient. The patient was asked to lie supine comfortably with the legs slightly separated. The scrotum was scanned with the spermatic cord and groin region. Varicocele examination was performed in supine posture with Valsalva manoeuvre and in erect posture to confirm it. Thereafter, CD (Colour Doppler) and pulsed Doppler were performed to depict flow in the vessels. Comparison was always made with the asymptomatic contralateral side and findings are analysed. In patients with suspicion of testicular tumours, other regions were scanned to look for the presence of secondaries. In case of varicocele, especially the left side, the kidneys were scanned to rule out renal mass.

Chest Radiograph (Postero-Anterior View), Computed Tomography and Laboratory Investigations

It was taken in those cases which were suspected to have testicular tumour to detect retroperitoneal lymph nodes and metastases and in suspected tubercular epididymis with relevant histopathological investigations.

RESULTS

Commonest age group is 21-40 years, which is 62% of patients.

![Fig. 1: Age Distribution of Cases](image1.png)

Commonest presentation was scrotal swelling in 73% cases.

![Fig. 2: Clinical Symptomatology](image2.png)

Fluid collections were the commonest abnormality with hydrocele was most common type [Table - 1].

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of Lesion</th>
<th>No. of Cases</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fluid</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrocele</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haematocoeles</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lymphocele</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute inflammation</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Inflammation</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torsion testes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malposition testes</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testicular tumours</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testicular trauma</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testicular &amp; epididymal cysts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple cyst</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epididymal cyst</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testicular cyst</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testicular atrophy</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varicoceles</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testicular microlithiasis</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hernias</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omentocele</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterocoele</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrotal wall oedema</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Nature of Lesion

The fluid was anechoic in 71.1% and without any septation in 78.9% cases. Associated abnormality was noted in 84.2% cases of hydrocele. On CD study, the vascularity is normal.

![Fig. 3: Right Moderate Hydrocele with Internal Echoes and Internal Septations](image3.png)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sonographic Features</th>
<th>Non seminomatous Germ Cell Tumour (n=2)</th>
<th>Seminoma (n=1)</th>
<th>Teratocarcinomas Ca (n=1)</th>
<th>Leukaemia (n=1)</th>
<th>Azzopardi Tumour (n=1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TESTES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Size</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Normal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Enlarged</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Involve pattern</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Focal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Diffused</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Echo texture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Heterogeneous; Cystic &amp; Hyperechoic areas</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relatively homogenous, cystic areas</td>
<td>Hypoechoic</td>
<td>Hypoechoic</td>
<td>Hyperechoic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tunica inversion</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Calcification</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Present</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 (microlithiasis)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Absent</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Contralateral Testes</td>
<td>normal</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Testicular microlithiasis</td>
<td>normal</td>
<td>normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADNEXAL STRUCTURE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Epididymis</td>
<td>Thickened (n=2)</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Spermatic cord</td>
<td>Thickened (n=2)</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HYDROCELE</strong></td>
<td>Minimal (n=2)</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>Absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Spicled</td>
<td>Septated (n=1)</td>
<td>Septated</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>anechoic</td>
<td>Absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Associated Findings</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Lymph nodes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• SITE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Para-aortic</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Peripancreatic</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Periportal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Iliac</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• SIZE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Bulky confluent (&gt;6 cm)</td>
<td>Bulky confluent (&gt;6 cm)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Liver metastases</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Lung metastases</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hydroureteronephrosis</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pneumonia</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2: Sonographic Features & Associated Findings of Tumours**

Six cases of testicular tumours were encountered in the study. Tumour lesions are comparatively hypoechoic in 83% of cases [Table - 2].

![Fig. 4: Lt. Testicular Tumour (A) - Left Testis enlarged in size with markedly increased diffuse vascularity. (B) Showing increased vascularity of Lt. epididymis with increased peak systolic velocity (>15 cm/sec) and reduced resistivity index (<7.0) noted in left testicular artery.](image-url)
Fig. 4: Left Testicular Tumour (C&D) T1WI Transverse Image showing Increased Size of Left Testis with Isointense Signals

Post contrast T1W Fat Suppressed Image was showing Marked Homogeneous Contrast Enhancement

Fig. 4: (E&F): Left Testicular Tumour-Multiple Rounded Hypoechoic Lesions seen involving Liver Parenchyma (Liver Metastasis). Enlarged well-defined Hypoechoic RT Para-aortic Lymph Node also noted

Fig. 4 (G): Left Nonseminomatous Germ Cell Tumour - Computed Tomography Reformate Pictures showing Para-aortic Lymph Nodes
Associated findings were lymph nodes involvement, lung metastasis, liver metastasis, hydronephrosis, pneumonia, etc. [Table - 2]. Unevenly distributed pattern of flow were noted in 50% cases of tumour except a case of leukemic infiltration showing even distribution [Table - 3].

**Fig. 4 (H): Lt. Testicular Tumour turned out to be Yolk Sac Tumour on Histopathological Examination**  
(Micrograph was showing Yolk Sac Tumour with Schiller-Duval Bodies, H&E Stain, 50x)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Nonseminomatous Germ Cell Tumour</th>
<th>Seminoma</th>
<th>Teratocarcinoma</th>
<th>Leukaemia</th>
<th>Azzopardi Tumours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SIZE OF LESION</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Less than 1.6 cm</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• More than 1.6 cm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colour Doppler</td>
<td>Normal-1 Increased-1</td>
<td>Increased</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Increased</td>
<td>Decreased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATTERN OF FLOW</td>
<td>Unevenly distributed vessels</td>
<td>Unevenly distributed vessels</td>
<td>Evenly distributed vessels</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECTRAL ANALYSIS</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Peak Systolic Velocity &gt;19.8 cm/sec</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Resistivity Index &lt;0.7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 3: Colour Doppler Findings of Tumours**

In 16 cases of acute inflammation, 50% were young and sexually active age group; 30.5% was showing hypoechogenicity of the testes. Epididymis was the commonest anatomical structure involved. CD could demonstrate increased flow in 50% testes and 80% epididymis.

**Fig. 5: Focal Orchitis seen as focal altered Hypoechoic Intratesticular Lesion showing increase Vascularity. In Colour Doppler Study Right Testis showing Increased Diastolic Flow and Reduced Resistivity Index (<0.7). However, Peak Systolic Velocity was within Upper Limits of Normal (<15 cm/sec).**
Fig. 6 (A): Right Testis has Increased in Size and More Hypoechoic in Echotexture as compared to Left Testis. Right Testis showing more Vascularity as compared to Left Testis.

Fig. 6 (B&C): Right Testis showing Increased Vascularity, More Peak Systolic Velocity and Increased Diastolic Flow.

Fig. 6 (D): Right Parotid Gland showing Hypoechoic Echotexture with Increased Vascularity. These Findings are consistent with Acute Parotitis.
87% cases of orchitis demonstrate a PSV of more than 15 cm/sec and 75% cases demonstrate RI (Resistivity Index) less than 0.7. Chronic inflammation of scrotal structures, in majority of cases involvement of epididymis noted and showing hypoechoic echotexture. One testes (5.5%) normal on gray scale showed increased vascularity on CD study and was considered abnormal.

CD blood flow in symptomatic testes was absent in all three cases (100%). In four cases of testicular trauma, hyperechoic echopattern is noted in 50% cases. Discrete fracture identified in 25% cases with haematocele in 75% cases.
Fig. 8 (B&C): Right Testicular Torsion – Hypoechoic Echotexture of Right Testis without Intratesticular Vascularity. Extratesticular Vessels were showing Vascular Flow

Testicular atrophy cases, most common heterogeneous pattern noted in 66.6% cases and reduced flow signals in 100% cases.

Varicocele was seen on left side in 86.7% cases and 13.3% on right side. All cases demonstrated accentuation on Valsalva manoeuvre with 73.3% cases show reflux.

Fig. 9: Right Varicocele (A) Multiple Dilated Anechoic Serpiginous Structure seen in Left Scrotal Sac. (B) On colour Doppler study, Serpiginous Structure was showing Reflux as change in Colour signal (Red to Blue) and Prominence as Increased Luminal Diameter on Valsalva Manoeuvre. (C) On Spectral Analysis, these venous channels showing reversal of Flow Signify Reflux
Features | No. of Cases | Percentage
--- | --- | ---
Max size of spermatic veins: 2-3 mm | 4 | 26.7
3-4 mm | 5 | 33.3
>4 mm | 6 | 40
Tortuosity of vessels: Present | 12 | 80
Absent | 3 | 20
Accentuation on: Valsalva manoeuvre | 15 | 100
Erect posture | 15 | 100
Colour Doppler features: Increase | 13 | 86.7
Normal | 0 | 0
Decrease | 2 | 13.3
Spectral analysis: Maximum flow velocity: >6 cm/sec | 2 | 13.3
4-6 cm/sec | 6 | 40
2-4 cm/sec | 5 | 33.4
<2 cm/sec | 2 | 13.3
Reflux grade: Grade 1 | 2 | 13.3
Grade 2 | 3 | 20
Grade 3 | 10 | 66.7

Table 4: Varicocele – Sonography & Colour Doppler Features

Seven percent of cases showed spermatocele as compared to 11% of epididymal cysts were identified and confirmed on aspiration. Omentocele was seen in 3% cases, while enterocele in four cases. Thus hernial incidence of 7% was noted.

In our study, testicular microlithiasis was encountered in 6% cases. Four cases had bilateral testicular microlithiasis with associated teratocarcinoma on one side was found in one case.

The incidence of cryptorchidism was 4% in our series. Most common position was in inguinal canal and smaller than their contralateral counterpart in 50% cases. On sonography, 75% were homogeneous and hypoechoic in echotexture with torsion noted in one case. On sonography two testes (50%) were homogeneous and hypoechoic in echotexture.

ASSOCIATED FEATURES
- Torsion | 1 | 25
- Inguinal hernia | 1 | 25
- Hydrocele | 2 | 50

Table 5: Undescended Testes Features

Two cases depicted a thickened scrotal wall with normal testes. On CD increased vascularity were identified in the scrotal wall, which had high resistance blood flow with RI values more then 7, 0.81 and 0.78 respectively.

Omentocele was 3% cases, while enterocele in 4% cases. Thus, an incidence of 7% was noted. In our study, sonography revealed a highly echogenic mass separated from the testes in omental hernia and anechoic mass in inguinoscrotal region of in cases of enterocele. On CD, vascular signals were demonstrated within the bowel wall and within the omentum.

Fig. 10 (A,B&C): Right Inguinal Hernia with Omentum as Hernial Content
One postoperative case of herniorrhaphy was studied, which had multiloculated collections in the spermatic cord. Another patient had thickened spermatic cord with no traceable vascular signals in the cord or ipsilateral testes. The testes had atrophied in this case.

Three malignant cysts noted with features of multilocularity, shaggy, thick and irregular wall, echogenic content and hypervascularity.

Majority of pathologies was showing extratesticular involvement (62% cases). Infratesticular and both (Infratesticular and extratesticular) involvement noted in 10% and 27% cases respectively. In one case, we cannot identify testis (A case of traumatic haematocoele). So, in our study high frequency ultrasound showed 99% accuracy to distinguish between Infratesticular and Extratesticular pathology.

**DISCUSSION**

100 patients with scrotal lesions were included in this study. Predominant group in the study was 21 to 30 years comprising of 42% cases. Commonest presenting complaint was that of scrotal swelling in 73% followed by 34.4% scrotal pain.

**Fluid Collections**

Fluid collections were the commonest abnormality with hydrocele as most frequent fluid collection, same reported by Langer et al.[2] Thus, accuracy of 100% was achieved in diagnosing Hydrocele same as reported by Gutman et al.[3]

All cases of haematocoele showed fluid with internal echoes and septations considered diagnostic of haematocoele also by Stewart et al.[4] A case of lymphocele with lymphatic collection in inguinoscrotal region and upper thigh. Chung et al.[5] have described these features in case of lymphocele.

**Testicular Tumours**

In the present study, all cases of testicular tumours were encountered and diagnosed in all cases with nearly same accuracy reported by Fowler et al.[6]

The sonographic characteristic of testicular tumours was the heterogeneous appearance of the testes. Tumour lesions appeared less echogenic than normal testes in 83% of cases, also reported by Arger et al.[7]

The seminoma was hypoechoic, homogeneous and had sharply circumscribed margins, while Nonseminomatous Germ Cell Tumours (NSGCT) were characterized by heterogeneous echotexture, irregular margins and cystic spaces. Similar observations were made by Nachtsheim et al.[8]

A case of Azzopardi tumour was noted. Grantham et al.[9] also reported hypechoic foci in six out of seven regressed germ cell tumours of the testes.

Testicular microlithiasis was noted in one case (16.6%) of testicular tumour. Berger et al.[10] reported microlithiasis to be present in 35% of their patients with testicular tumours.

The distribution of blood vessels within the tumour was random and disorganized in hypervascular tumours. These findings were similar to those observed by Horstman et al.[11]

Enlarged para-aortic lymph nodes were the most common site of metastases detected in 66.6% cases of tumours. This feature was also observed by Mostofi FK et al.[12]

**Acute Inflammation**

50% patients were in young sexually active males. Testes were involved in 50% cases. Most common sonographic feature was hypoechochogenicity of the testes (37.5% cases). Horstman WC et al.[13] reported involvement of testes in 20% to 40% of cases. They also reported that epididymis was the commonest anatomical structure involved in acute inflammation with hypoechochogenicity. Associated peritesticular fluid and spermatic cord thickening was seen in 62.5% and 31.3% cases. CD could demonstrate increased flow with increased PSV and reduced RI.

Two testicular abscesses and one epididymal abscess were seen as complex fluid collections with internal echogenic material and debris. Similar findings have been reported by Horstman WC et al.[13]

**Chronic Inflammation**

Eighteen cases of chronic inflammation of scrotal structures were included in the study. Majority of age group of 21 to 30 years noted.

Testes were involved in 27.7% cases as compared to 83.3% of epididymis. Epididymis enlargement was diffuse (27.5%) with hypoechoic echotexture (33.3%).

Involvement of spermatic cord was noted in 38.9% cases. Evidence of tuberculosis in lung was associated in five cases (27.7%). Epididymal calcification was noted in 5.5% cases. Strikingly similar observations were noted by Kim et al.[14]

On CD, 22.2% of patients with chronic inflammation showed increased vascular signals; 5.5% testes and 5.5% of epididymitis (Normal on gray scale) showed increased vascularity on CD and were considered abnormal.

Thus, undiagnosed cases of orchitis and epididymitis (One each) were detected, which were normal on gray scale sonography which was detected on CD. Increased sensitivity and specificity of CD to assess scrotal inflammation has been asserted by Barton JW.[15]

**Testicular Torsion**

Two cases of acute and one case of chronic testicular torsion were included in our study with all was under 20 years. Tumeh et al.[16] described torsion to occur commonly between the ages of 12 to 18 years. Features indistinguishable to those of torsion were noted in five cases of acute inflammation on gray scale sonography alone. Bird et al.[17] also remarked same.

On sonography, the commonest pattern was enlarged testes (66.6%) with heterogeneous echopattern as most common pattern (66.6%). Bird et al.[17] found similar findings in testicular torsion.

Changes in peritesticular tissue were also noted. The epididymis was enlarged in two cases (66.6%) with hypoechoic echopattern in one case (33.3%). In a single case of chronic torsion, the epididymis was enlarged and heterogeneous. Tumeh et al.[16] noted similar features in their series. In one case of testicular torsion, spiral twist of spermatic cord was noted. Baud et al.[18] described it to be a reliable sign of testicular torsion. With CD, blood flow in symptomatic testes was absent in all three cases (100%). However, CD could demonstrate flow signals on asymptomatic side only in two post-pubertal testes (66.6%). No colour signal was identified on the asymptomatic side in a child aged four years with torsion.

In two patients, spectral analysis revealed decrease in RI with dampened flow, while in one patient the waveform was nearly venous. Baud et al.[18] described similar waveforms in their studies.
Testicular Trauma
In the present study, four cases of testicular trauma were diagnosed. Sonography demonstrated hyperechoic echopattern in 50% cases. Increased size of testes was observed in two patients (50%). Discrete fracture could be identified in one patient (25%). Jeffrey et al. noted similar findings.

Echogenic fluid suggestive of haematocoele was noted in three patients (75%). Jeffrey et al. noted presence of haematocoele in 83% cases in their series.

On CD, no vascular signal was identified in one case (25%) of blunt testicular trauma. In remaining three cases, normal intratesticular flow was seen.

Testicular Atrophy
5% patients were showing testicular atrophy. The testes were noted to be hypoechoic in 33.3% and heterogeneous in 66.6% cases. The epididymis in all cases was small in size. Similar findings were found by Cross et al.

Varicoceles
They comprised 15% of total number of cases comparable to 10% to 15% cases by Berger et al.

They were seen more commonly on left side, as in our study also found by McClure et al. All cases demonstrated accentuation on Valsava manoeuvre and on erect posture. 40% cases were diagnosed on colour Doppler, which were undiagnosed by clinical examination suggesting colour Doppler more sensitive.

Greenberg et al. found reflux in all cases, clinical varicoceles as in our study. No significant difference in PSV in relation to presence or absence of varicocele and the degree of reflux was noted.

Malpositioned Testes
The incidence of cryptorchidism was 4% in our series. Its most common position was in inguinal canal, 50% cases also noted by Kleinteich et al.

On sonography, 75% were homogeneous and hypoechoic in echotexture. Sizes of 50% testes were smaller than their contra lateral counterpart. Torsion of undescended testes were noted in one case also noted by Nguyen and Hricak.

Testicular Cysts
Hamm et al. had an incidence of 4% of testicular cysts, while in our study it is 3%. In all cases they were seen as well circumscribed, anechoic lesions with thin smooth walls and posterior acoustic enhancement. Malignant cysts were usually multilocular with shaggy, thick, poorly margined walls and surrounded by neoplastic parenchyma with tumour vascularity. Horstman WG stressed on similar features to differentiate these two conditions. A case of tunica albuginea cyst was seen.

Epididymal Cysts and Spermatoceles
7% cases of spermatocele and 11% cases of epididymal cysts were identified and confirmed on aspiration.

While the cyst contents were echogenic in 85.7% cases of spermatocele, it was anechoic in 100% cases of epididymal cysts. Septation were noted in 57.1% cases of spermatocele and in 9% cases of epididymal cyst. Doherty et al. noted similar findings. On CD, blood flow in septae was seen in 28.5% cases of spermatocele and 9% cases of epididymal cyst.

Scleral Hernias
Omentocele was 3% cases, while enterocele in 4% cases. Thus, an incidence of 7% was noted. An incidence of 7.6% was noted by Subramanyam BR et al. in their study. In our study, sonography revealed a highly echogenic mass separated from the testes in omental hernia and anechoic mass in inguinoscrotal region of in cases of enterocele. Subramanyam BR et al. noted similar findings.

On CD, vascular signals were demonstrated within the bowel wall and within the omentum.

One postoperative case of herniorrhaphy was studied, which had multiseptated collections in the spermatic cord. Another patient had thickened spermatic cord with no traceable vascular signals in the cord or ipsilateral testes. The testes had atrophied in this case.

Testicular Microlithiasis
In our study testicular microlithiasis have incidence of 6% with 4% cases had bilateral testicular microlithiasis with associated teratocarcinoma on 1% case. Doherty et al. described similar findings with a reported incidence of 0.6%.

Scleral Wall Oedema
Scleral wall oedema was found in two patients, one due to heart failure and second due to filariasis. Scleral wall thickened with multiple layers like onion peel. Thickening of penile skin was also noted in both cases. Grainger et al. described similar findings.

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