

# IMPACT OF RED CELL AND PLATELET DISTRIBUTION WIDTH IN PATIENTS OF MEDICAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

<sup>1</sup> Ayush Dubey, <sup>2\*</sup> Sunil Kumar, <sup>3</sup> Swapnil Lahole, <sup>4</sup> Saurav Chaturvedi

**ABSTRACT**--The study is being conducted to observe the impact of both RDW and PDW combined and to evaluate its prognostic importance with death in critically ill patients admitted in intensive care unit. To predict outcome in patients admitted in medical intensive care units in terms of length of ICU stay, need for ventilator and mortality. To compare Red cell distribution width and Platelet distribution width with APACHE 4 score. In this cross sectional study, in all enrolled 100 patients admitted in medical intensive care unit. RDW and PDW were measured and compared with APACHE IV score. Data collection was done on demography, ICU stay, days on mechanical ventilation and mortality. The collected data was analyzed and continuous variables were expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation. As RDW and PDW increases, mortality, use of mechanical ventilator and length of ICU stay increases. RDW and PDW monitoring may predict outcome in MICU patients.

**Keywords**--RDW, PDW, APACHE IV Score

## I. INTRODUCTION

The distribution width of red blood cell (RDW) is a measurement of variation of size of red blood cell. (1) Width of platelet distribution (PDW) is a index of platelet which tells about variation in size of platelet. (2) Erythrocytes have variation in size, which becomes tiny during ageing. Mean corpuscular volume (MCV) represents their total volume and the difference in size by distribution width of red cell. Current studies are suggestive of an increased association of raised RDW with death. In patients of congestive cardiac failure RDW was similar to NT-pro-BNP and was better than NYHA class association, kidney function and left ventricular ejection fraction for analyzing outcome. As the RDW increases, the rate of mortality also increases and the reason for it is still not known. In few studies it was suggested that an increased RDW is due to inflammatory state. (8) RDW is increased due to decreased level of vitamin B12, Folic acid and Iron.

Study have shown that, in patients of sepsis, there is increased risk of death in patients having PDW of more than 18%. (9) Reduction in platelet count found in critically ill patients is the because of dilution of blood, raised utilization of platelet, immunological breakdown of platelet. Increased platelet breakdown due to sepsis leads to over production of immature and large size platelet while in due course there is decreased marrow activity. PDW (measure to assess the size of platelet) in the circulation is readily available to the clinician in the complete blood

---

<sup>1</sup> Resident, Department of Medicine, J.N Medical College, DMIMSU (Deemed to be university), drayushdubey23@gmail.com, 9561201821

<sup>2</sup> \*Professor and head, Department of Medicine, J.N Medical College, DMIMSU (Deemed to be university), sunilkumarmed@gmail.com, 9850393787

<sup>3</sup> Resident, Department of Medicine, J.N Medical College, DMIMSU (Deemed to be university), swapnillahole12@gmail.com, 8275411424

<sup>4</sup> Resident, Department of Medicine, J.N Medical College, DMIMSU (Deemed to be university), sauravchaturvedi39@gmail.com, 8770574465

count and their importance in many disorders of platelet have only been studied recently. Patrick showed in his study that new born with sepsis of late onset had a massive rise in PDW.(10) Although few templates have been assessed to study the mortality and morbidity in ICUs regarding RDW and PDW, they have studied separately. Also it is less reported especially in India, in this respect leading to inconclusive results. In our study we have studied the impact of both RDW and PDW combined and to evaluate its prognostic importance with mortality in hospital in patients who are critically ill.

## **II. OBJECTIVES**

1. To predict outcome in patients admitted in medical intensive care units in terms of length of ICU stay, need for ventilator and mortality.
2. To compare Red cell distribution width and Platelet distribution width with APACHE 4 score.

## **III. METHODS**

Study design: Cross sectional study.

Setting: The study will be conducted in a multidisciplinary Intensive Care Unit of medicine department A.V.B.R Hospital , a tertiary care teaching hospital situated in the rural area of Wardha District .

Variables: RDW, PDW, APACHE IV Score.

Data sources/ measurement : RDW and PDW were derived from CBC report, APACHE IV score was calculated by using online software <https://intensivecarenetwork.com/Calculators/Files/Apache4.html>

Study size: All the patients hospitalized to Intensive Care Unit of medicine department from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 having qSOFA score  $\geq 2$

Statistical methods: Data collection was done on demography, ICU stay, days on mechanical ventilation and mortality. The collected data will be analyzed and continuous variables will be expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation.

## **IV. EXPECTED OUTCOMES/RESULTS**

Participants: All the patients hospitalized to Intensive Care Unit of medicine department from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 having qSOFA score  $\geq 2$

Outcome data: As RDW and PDW increases, mortality, need of mechanical ventilation and length of ICU stay Increases

Main results: RDW and PDW monitoring may predict outcome in MICU patients.

## **V. DISCUSSION**

The distribution width of red blood cell (RDW) is a measurement of variation of size of red blood cell .(1) Width of platelet distribution (PDW) is a index of platelet which tells about variation in size of platelet.(2) Erythrocytes have variation in size, which becomes tiny during ageing. Mean corpuscular volume (MCV) represents their total volume and the difference in size by distribution width of red cell. Current studies are

suggestive of an increased association of raised RDW with death. In patients of congestive cardiac failure RDW was similar to NT-pro-BNP and was better than NYHA class association, kidney function and left ventricular ejection fraction for analyzing outcome. As the RDW increases, the rate of mortality also increases and the reason for it is still not known. In few studies it was suggested that an increased RDW is due to inflammatory state.(8) RDW is increased due to decreased level of vitamin B12, Folic acid and Iron.

Study have shown that, in patients of sepsis, there is increased risk of death in patients having PDW of more than 18%.(9) Reduction in platelet count found in critically ill patients is the because of dilution of blood, raised utilization of platelet, immunological breakdown of platelet. Increased platelet breakdown due to sepsis leads to over production of immature and large size platelet while in due course there is decreased marrow activity. PDW (measure to assess the size of platelet) in the circulation is readily available to the clinician in the complete blood count and their importance in many disorders of platelet have only been studied recently. Patrick showed in his study that new born with sepsis of late onset had a massive rise in PDW.(10) Although few templates have been assessed to study the mortality and morbidity in ICUs regarding RDW and PDW, they have studied separately. Also it is less reported especially in India, in this respect leading to inconclusive results. In patient of bronchiectasis there is high chance of secondary bacterial infection which leads to sepsis leading to rising RDW and PDW.(11) In patients of End stage renal disease as the patient is immunologically compromised. There are high chances of secondary sepsis, leading to raised RDW and PDW and eventually patient land up in intensive care unit for management.(12) There is need of development of scoring system in terms of prognostic outcomes in patient of chronic kidney disease with sepsis admitted in intensive care unit. (13) In elderly patient because of low immunity the patient gets easily affected by variety of infectious disease leading to severe thrombocytopenia and rise in PDW.(14) In Patients of tuberculosis of central nervous system which may be secondary to a unknown primary leading to inflammation in the meninges and brain parenchyma which lead to rise in RDW and PDW.(15) In a study conducted on non tubercular mycobacterial infection it was proposed for finding new markers of inflammation secondary to infection in patients admitted in critical care unit for which RDW and PDW can be considered. (16). In patients of bronchiectasis secondary to tuberculosis patient develops secondary infection leading to sepsis and admission in critical care unit where for assessment of outcome RDW and PDW can be used.(17) In patients of organophosphate poisoning the patient eventually land up in intermediate syndrome who needs mechanical ventilator support and ICU admission the RDW and PDW can be used as a prognostic marker.(18) Patient of Dengue hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome require intensive care unit and aggressive management there is need to find new markers for prognostic indication for which RDW and PDW can be used.(19) In patient of autoimmune diseases leading to end stage renal disease the disease progression and its ultimate outcome can be assessed by monitoring of PDW and RDW.(20) In our study we have studied the impact of both RDW and PDW combined and to evaluate its prognostic importance with mortality in hospital in patients who are critically ill. A number of related studies in this region were explored for additional information relevant to geographic context (21-35). Some articles related to other related non-communicable entities(36-58) and sociocultural aspects (59-88) were reviewed.

## REFERENCES

1. Lippi G, Plebani M. Red blood cell distribution width (RDW) and human pathology. One size fits all. *Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM)*. 2014 Sep 1;52(9):1247-9.
2. Kaito K, Otsubo H, Usui N, Yoshida M, Tanno J, Kurihara E, Matsumoto K, Hirata R, Domitsu K, Kobayashi M. Platelet size deviation width, platelet large cell ratio, and mean platelet volume have sufficient sensitivity and specificity in the diagnosis of immune thrombocytopenia. *British journal of haematology*. 2005 Mar;128(5):698-702.
3. Dabbah S, Hammerman H, Markiewicz W, et al. Relation between red cell distribution width and clinical outcomes after acute myocardial infarction. *Am J Cardiol*. 2010;105:312-7.
4. Pascual-Figal DA, Bonaque JC, Redondo B, et al. Red blood cell distribution width predicts long-term outcome regardless of anaemia status in acute heart failure patients. *Eur J Heart Fail*. 2009;11:840-6.
5. Braun E, Domany E, Kenig Y, et al. Elevated red cell distribution width predicts poor outcome in young patients with community acquired pneumonia. *Crit Care*. 2011;15:R194.
6. Hampole CV, Mehrotra AK, Thenappan T, et al. Usefulness of red cell distribution width as a prognostic marker in pulmonary hypertension. *Am J Cardiol*. 2009;104:868-72.
7. Patel KV, Ferrucci L, Ershler WB, et al. Red blood cell distribution width and the risk of death in middle-aged and older adults. *Arch Intern Med*. 2009;169:515-23.
8. Bazick HS, Chang D, Mahadevappa K, et al. Red cell distribution width and all-cause mortality in critically ill patients. *Crit Care Med*. 2011;39:1913-21.
9. Babu E, Basu D. Platelet large cell ratio in the differential diagnosis of abnormal platelet counts. *Indian J Pathol Microbiol*. 2004 Apr;47(2):202-5.
10. Patrick CH, Lazarchick J. The effect of bacteremia on automated platelet measurements in neonates. *Am. J. Clin. Pathol*. 1990 Mar;93(3):391-4.
11. Dhar, R., M. Mohan, G. D'souza, S. Rajagopalan, V. Singh, A. Jindal, A. B, et al. "Phenotype Characterization Of Non Cystic Fibrosis Bronchiectasis In India: Baseline Data From An Indian Bronchiectasis Registry." *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF RESPIRATORY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE* 195 (2017).
12. Balwani, Manish, Jitender Goswami, and Mohan Patel. "INTENSIVE CARE UNIT SCORING SYSTEMS AND OUTCOME OF CKD PATIENTS ADMITTED IN INTENSIVE CARE UNIT: A SINGLE CENTER STUDY." *NEPHROLOGY DIALYSIS TRANSPLANTATION* 32, no. 3 (May 2017).
13. Goswami, Jitendra, Manish R. Balwani, Vivek Kute, ManojGumber, Mohan Patel, and Umesh Godhani. "Scoring Systems and Outcome of Chronic Kidney Disease Patients Admitted In Intensive Care Units." *SAUDI JOURNAL OF KIDNEY DISEASES AND TRANSPLANTATION* 29, no. 2 (April 2018): 310-17.
14. Agrawal, Abhijit, Sunil Kumar, and Jahanvi Bhagwati. "Correlation of Platelet Indices with Clinical Profile in Elderly Patients: A Study in Rural Teaching Hospital." *ANNALS OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES RESEARCH* 8, no. 3 (June 2018): 163-69.

15. Papalkar, Parag, Sourya Acharya, and Samarth Shukla. "Cheyne Stokes Breathing in a Case of Tubercular Meningitis with Hydrocephalus." JOURNAL OF CLINICAL AND DIAGNOSTIC RESEARCH 13, no. 5 (May 2019): OJ01–2.
16. Sharma, S. K., R. Sharma, B. K. Singh, V. Upadhyay, and I. Mani. "A Study of Non-Tuberculous Mycobacterial (NTM) Disease Among Tuberculosis Suspects at a Tertiary Care Center in North India." AMERICAN JOURNAL OF RESPIRATORY AND CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE 199 (2019).
17. Ghorpade, Deesha, Sheetu Singh, Deepak Talwar, Sagar Chandrashekariah, Surya Kant, Rajesh Swarnakar, Srinivas Rajagopala, et al. "Post-Tuberculosis Bronchiectasis in India: Outcomes of the Indian EMBARC Registry." EUROPEAN RESPIRATORY JOURNAL 52, no. 62 (September 15, 2018).
18. Kumar, Sunil, Sachin Agrawal, Nitin Raisinghani, and Shameem Khan. "Leukocyte Count: A Reliable Marker for the Severity of Organophosphate Intoxication?" JOURNAL OF LABORATORY PHYSICIANS 10, no. 2 (June 2018): 185–88.
19. Garg, Suneela, Anita Chakravarti, Ritesh Singh, N. R. Ramesh Masthi, Ram Chandra Goyal, Guru Rajesh Jammy, EnakshiGanguly, et al. "Dengue Serotype-Specific Seroprevalence among 5-to 10-Year-Old Children in India: A Community-Based Cross-Sectional Study." INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES 54 (January 2017): 25–30.
20. Balwani, Manish R., CharulataBawankule, Prakash Khetan, Vishal Ramteke, Priyanka Tolani, and Vivek Kute. "An Uncommon Cause of Rapidly Progressive Renal Failure in a Lupus Patient: Pauci-Immune Crescentic Glomerulonephritis." SAUDI JOURNAL OF KIDNEY DISEASES AND TRANSPLANTATION 29, no. 4 (August 2018): 989–92. <https://doi.org/10.4103/1319-2442.239632>.
- 21.
22. Sabanayagam C, Shankar A, Lim SC, Lee J, Tai ES, Wong TY. Serum C-reactive protein level and prediabetes in two Asian populations. Diabetologia. 2011;54(4):767–775.
23. Pepys MB, Hirschfield GM. C-reactive protein: a critical update. J Clin Invest 2003; 111(12):1805-1812.
24. Nicki R.Colledge, Brian R.Walker, Stuart H.Ralston. Davidson's Principles and Practice of Medicine,21<sup>st</sup> Edition, Chapter 5 – Environmental and Nutritional factors in disease, pg 118.
25. Organization WH. Waist circumference and waist-hip ratio: report of a WHO expert consultation, Geneva, 8-11 December 2008. 2011;
26. Paul K. Whelton, Robert M. Carey, Wilbert S. Aronow, Donald E. Casey Jr., Karen J. Collins, Cheryl Dennison Himmelfarb et al ACC/AHA Guideline for the Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Management of High Blood Pressure in AdultsA Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines, Journal of American College of Cardiology, 2017 ;volume 71 (19) e137
27. Cladius, S., U. Jadhav, B. Ghewade, S. Ali, and T. Dhamgaye. "Study of Diabetes Mellitus in Association with Tuberculosis." Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University 12, no. 2 (2017): 143–47. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_62\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_62_17).
28. Bhinder, H.H.P.S., and T.K. Kamble. "The Study of Carotid Intima-Media Thickness in Prediabetes and Its Correlation with Cardiovascular Risk Factors." Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University 13, no. 2 (2018): 79–82. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_58\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_58_18).

29. Rathi, N., B. Taksande, and S. Kumar. "Nerve Conduction Studies of Peripheral Motor and Sensory Nerves in the Subjects with Prediabetes." *Journal of Endocrinology and Metabolism* 9, no. 5 (2019): 147–50. <https://doi.org/10.14740/jem602>.
30. Walinjkar, R.S., S. Khadse, S. Kumar, S. Bawankule, and S. Acharya. "Platelet Indices as a Predictor of Microvascular Complications in Type 2 Diabetes." *Indian Journal of Endocrinology and Metabolism* 23, no. 2 (2019): 206–10. <https://doi.org/10.4103/ijem.IJEM-13-19>.
31. Phadnis, P., M.A. Kamble, S. Daigavane, P. Tidke, and S. Gautam. "Prevalence and Risk Factors – Hemoglobin A1c, Serum Magnesium, Lipids, and Microalbuminuria for Diabetic Retinopathy: A Rural Hospital-Based Study." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 12, no. 2 (2017): 121–32. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_59\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_59_17).
32. Dande, R., A.R. Gadail, S. Sarode, M.P.M. Gadail, S.M. Gondivkar, M. Gawande, S.C. Sarode, G.S. Sarode, and S. Patil. "Oral Manifestations in Diabetic and Nondiabetic Chronic Renal Failure Patients Receiving Hemodialysis." *Journal of Contemporary Dental Practice* 19, no. 4 (2018): 398–403. <https://doi.org/10.5005/jp-journals-10024-2273>.
33. Phadnis, P., M.A. Kamble, S. Daigavane, P. Tidke, and S. Gautam. "Prevalence and Risk Factors – Hemoglobin A1c, Serum Magnesium, Lipids, and Microalbuminuria for Diabetic Retinopathy: A Rural Hospital-Based Study." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 12, no. 2 (2017): 121–32. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_59\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_59_17).
34. Bhayani, P., R. Rawekar, S. Bawankule, S. Kumar, S. Acharya, A. Gaidhane, and M. Khatib. "Profile of Urinary Tract Infection in a Rural Tertiary Care Hospital: Two-Year Cross-Sectional Study." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 14, no. 1 (2019): 22–26. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_87\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_87_18).
35. Cladius, S., U. Jadhav, B. Ghewade, S. Ali, and T. Dhamgaye. "Study of Diabetes Mellitus in Association with Tuberculosis." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 12, no. 2 (2017): 143–47. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_62\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_62_17).
36. Bhinder, H.H.P.S., and T.K. Kamble. "The Study of Carotid Intima-Media Thickness in Prediabetes and Its Correlation with Cardiovascular Risk Factors." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 2 (2018): 79–82. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_58\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_58_18).
37. Rathi, N., B. Taksande, and S. Kumar. "Nerve Conduction Studies of Peripheral Motor and Sensory Nerves in the Subjects with Prediabetes." *Journal of Endocrinology and Metabolism* 9, no. 5 (2019): 147–50. <https://doi.org/10.14740/jem602>.
38. Walinjkar, R.S., S. Khadse, S. Kumar, S. Bawankule, and S. Acharya. "Platelet Indices as a Predictor of Microvascular Complications in Type 2 Diabetes." *Indian Journal of Endocrinology and Metabolism* 23, no. 2 (2019): 206–10. <https://doi.org/10.4103/ijem.IJEM-13-19>.
39. Dande, R., A.R. Gadail, S. Sarode, M.P.M. Gadail, S.M. Gondivkar, M. Gawande, S.C. Sarode, G.S. Sarode, and S. Patil. "Oral Manifestations in Diabetic and Nondiabetic Chronic Renal Failure Patients Receiving Hemodialysis." *Journal of Contemporary Dental Practice* 19, no. 4 (2018): 398–403. <https://doi.org/10.5005/jp-journals-10024-2273>.
40. Varyani, U.T., N.M. Shah, P.R. Shah, V.B. Kute, M.R. Balwani, and H.L. Trivedi. "C1q Nephropathy in a Patient of Neurofibromatosis Type 1: A Rare Case Report." *Indian Journal of Nephrology* 29, no. 2 (2019): 125–27. [https://doi.org/10.4103/ijn.IJN\\_353\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/ijn.IJN_353_17).

41. Regmi PR, van Teijlingen E, Mahato P, Aryal N, Jadhav N, Simkhada P, et al. The health of nepali migrants in India: A qualitative study of lifestyles and risks. *Int J Environ Res Public Health* 2019;16(19).
42. Gaidhane A, Sinha A, Khatib M, Simkhada P, Behere P, Saxena D, et al. A systematic review on effect of electronic media on diet, exercise, and sexual activity among adolescents. *Indian J Community Med* 2018;43(5):S56-S65.
43. Khatib M, Sinha A, Gaidhane A, Simkhada P, Behere P, Saxena D, et al. A systematic review on effect of electronic media among children and adolescents on substance abuse. *Indian J Community Med* 2018;43(5):S66-S72.
44. Goswami, J., M.R. Balwani, V. Kute, M. Gumber, M. Patel, and U. Godhani. "Scoring Systems and Outcome of Chronic Kidney Disease Patients Admitted in Intensive Care Units." *Saudi Journal of Kidney Diseases and Transplantation: An Official Publication of the Saudi Center for Organ Transplantation, Saudi Arabia* 29, no. 2 (2018): 310–17. <https://doi.org/10.4103/1319-2442.229268>.
45. Goyal, R.C., S.G. Choudhari, and S.R. Tankhiwale. "Assessment of Competency Based Medical Internship Training with 'Cumulative Grade Points Average System'-An Innovative Step towards Meeting 'Vision 2015' of Medical Council of India." *Indian Journal of Public Health Research and Development* 9, no. 8 (2018): 155–62. <https://doi.org/10.5958/0976-5506.2018.00713.1>.
46. Gupta, V., and A. Bhake. "Assessment of Clinically Suspected Tubercular Lymphadenopathy by Real-Time PCR Compared to Non-Molecular Methods on Lymph Node Aspirates." *Acta Cytologica* 62, no. 1 (2018): 4–11. <https://doi.org/10.1159/000480064>.
47. "Reactive Lymphoid Hyperplasia or Tubercular Lymphadenitis: Can Real-Time PCR on Fine-Needle Aspirates Help Physicians in Concluding the Diagnosis?" *Acta Cytologica* 62, no. 3 (2018): 204–8. <https://doi.org/10.1159/000488871>.
48. Hande, A., M. Chaudhary, A. Gadbail, P. Zade, M. Gawande, and S. Patil. "Role of Hypoxia in Malignant Transformation of Oral Submucous Fibrosis." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 1 (2018): 38–43. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_40\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_40_18).
49. Hande, A.H., M.S. Chaudhary, A.R. Gadbail, P.R. Zade, M.N. Gawande, and S.K. Patil. "Role of Hypoxia in Malignant Transformation of Oral Submucous Fibrosis." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 1 (2018): 38–43. <https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu>.
50. Jain, J., S. Banait, I. Tiewsoh, and M. Choudhari. "Kikuchi's Disease (Histiocytic Necrotizing Lymphadenitis): A Rare Presentation with Acute Kidney Injury, Peripheral Neuropathy, and Aseptic Meningitis with Cutaneous Involvement." *Indian Journal of Pathology and Microbiology* 61, no. 1 (2018): 113–15. [https://doi.org/10.4103/IJPM.IJPM\\_256\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/IJPM.IJPM_256_17).
51. Jain, V., L. Waghmare, T. Shrivastav, and C. Mahakalkar. "SNAPPS Facilitates Clinical Reasoning in Outpatient Settings." *Education for Health: Change in Learning and Practice* 31, no. 1 (2018): 59–60. <https://doi.org/10.4103/1357-6283.239052>.
52. Jaiswal, S., S. Banait, and S. Daigavane. "A Comparative Study on Peripapillary Retinal Nerve Fiber Layer Thickness in Patients with Iron-Deficiency Anemia to Normal Population." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 1 (2018): 9–11. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_82\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_82_17).
53. Kasatwar, A., R. Borle, N. Bhola, K. Rajanikanth, G.S.V. Prasad, and A. Jadhav. "Prevalence of Congenital Cardiac Anomalies in Patients with Cleft Lip and Palate – Its Implications in Surgical

- Management.” *Journal of Oral Biology and Craniofacial Research* 8, no. 3 (2018): 241–44. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jobcr.2017.09.009>.
54. Khandelwal, V., S. Khandelwal, N. Gupta, U.A. Nayak, N. Kulshreshtha, and S. Baliga. “Knowledge of Hepatitis B Virus Infection and Its Control Practices among Dental Students in an Indian City.” *International Journal of Adolescent Medicine and Health* 30, no. 5 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1515/ijamh-2016-0103>.
  55. Khatib, M., A. Sinha, A. Gaidhane, P. Simkhada, P. Behere, D. Saxena, B. Unnikrishnan, A. Khatib, M. Ahmed, and Q.S. Zahiruddin. “A Systematic Review on Effect of Electronic Media among Children and Adolescents on Substance Abuse.” *Indian Journal of Community Medicine* 43, no. 5 (2018): S66–72. [https://doi.org/10.4103/ijcm.IJCM\\_116\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/ijcm.IJCM_116_18).
  56. Khatib, M.N., A. Gaidhane, S. Gaidhane, and Z.S. Quazi. “Ghrelin as a Promising Therapeutic Option for Cancer Cachexia.” *Cellular Physiology and Biochemistry* 48, no. 5 (2018): 2172–88. <https://doi.org/10.1159/000492559>.
  57. Khatib, M.N., A.H. Shankar, R. Kirubakaran, A. Gaidhane, S. Gaidhane, P. Simkhada, and S.Z. Quazi. “Ghrelin for the Management of Cachexia Associated with Cancer.” *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2018, no. 2 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1002/14651858.CD012229.pub2>.
  58. Kirnake, V., A. Arora, P. Sharma, M. Goyal, R. Chawhani, J. Toshniwal, and A. Kumar. “Non-Invasive Aspartate Aminotransferase to Platelet Ratio Index Correlates Well with Invasive Hepatic Venous Pressure Gradient in Cirrhosis.” *Indian Journal of Gastroenterology* 37, no. 4 (2018): 335–41. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12664-018-0879-0>.
  59. Kumar, S., P. Bhayani, D. Hathi, and J. Bhagwati. “Hyponatremia Initial Presenting Feature of Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus in Elderly Patient: A Rare Case Report.” *Journal of Gerontology and Geriatrics* 66, no. 3 (2018): 156–57.
  60. Kürhade, G., B.S. Nayak, A. Kurhade, C. Unakal, and K. Kurhade. “Effect of Martial Arts Training on IL-6 and Other Immunological Parameters among Trinidadian Subjects.” *Journal of Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness* 58, no. 7–8 (2018): 1110–15. <https://doi.org/10.23736/S0022-4707.17.07666-6>.
  61. Madke, B., and J.M. Gardner. “Enhanced Worldwide Dermatology-Pathology Interaction via Facebook, Twitter, and Other Social Media Platforms.” *American Journal of Dermatopathology* 40, no. 3 (2018): 168–72. <https://doi.org/10.1097/DAD.0000000000000963>.
  62. Marfani, G.M., S.V. Kashikar, and S. Singhanian. “Double Barrel Oesophagus-A Case Report.” *Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research* 12, no. 8 (2018): TD01–2. <https://doi.org/10.7860/JCDR/2018/36419.11912>.
  63. Mathur, K., S. Ninave, S. Patond, S. Ninave, and P. Wankhade. “A Comparative Study of Estimation of Stature by Bertillon’s System among Individuals of Different Regions of India.” *Journal of Indian Academy of Forensic Medicine* 40, no. 3 (2018): 301–6. <https://doi.org/10.5958/0974-0848.2018.00054.4>.
  64. Mishra, K.K., P. Kelkar, and K. Kumar. “An Interesting Case of Trichotillomania in a Pre-School Child.” *Journal of Indian Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health* 14, no. 4 (2018): 131–35.
  65. Mittal, V., T. Jagzape, and P. Sachdeva. “Care Seeking Behaviour of Families for Their Sick Infants and Factors Impeding to Their Early Care Seeking in Rural Part of Central India.” *Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research* 12, no. 4 (2018): SC08-SC12. <https://doi.org/10.7860/JCDR/2018/28130.11401>.



66. Modi, L., S.R. Gedam, I.A. Shivji, V. Babar, and P.S. Patil. "Comparison of Total Self-Stigma between Schizophrenia and Alcohol Dependence Patients." *International Journal of High Risk Behaviors and Addiction* 7, no. 3 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.5812/ijhrba.61043>.
67. Modi, S., A. Agrawal, A. Bhake, and V. Agrawal. "Role of Adenosine Deaminase in Pleural Fluid in Tubercular Pleural Effusion." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 4 (2018): 163–67. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_77\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_77_17).
68. Mohite, D., A. Hande, R. Gupta, M. Chaudhary, P. Mohite, S. Patil, and M. Gawande. "Immunohistochemical Evaluation of Expression Pattern of P53, P63, and P73 in Epithelial Dysplasia." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 3 (2018): 122–29. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_64\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_64_18).
69. Mohite, P.M., A.J. Anjankar, and S. Patnod. "Organo PHOSPHORUS POISONING: Prognostic Value of GCS Score and Other Clinical Indicators in Assessing the Final Outcome." *Journal of Indian Academy of Forensic Medicine* 40, no. 2 (2018): 197–205. <https://doi.org/10.5958/0974-0848.2018.00035.0>.
70. Mundada, B.P., S. Surana, N. Bhola, S. Oswal, and P. Dakshinkar. "Multiple Recurrent Simultaneous Salivary Calculi." *Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research* 12, no. 5 (2018): ZJ01–2. <https://doi.org/10.7860/JCDR/2018/34546.1146>.
71. Munjal, R., and G. Mudey. "Nasal Carriage of Staphylococcus Aureus among Undergraduate Medical Students: Prevalence and Antibioqram Including Methicillin Resistance, Inducible Clindamycin Resistance, and High-Level Mupirocin Resistance." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 2 (2018): 91–94. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_10\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_10_18).
72. Nandanwar, J., M. Bhongade, S. Puri, P. Dhadse, M. Datir, and A. Kasatwar. "Comparison of Effectiveness of Hyaluronic Acid in Combination with Polylactic Acid/Polyglycolic Acid Membrane and Subepithelial Connective Tissue Graft for the Treatment of Multiple Gingival Recession Defects in Human: A Clinical Study." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 1 (2018): 48–53. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_39\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_39_18).
73. Oswal, N., M. Chandak, R. Oswal, and M. Saoji. "Management of Endodontically Treated Teeth with Endocrown." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 1 (2018): 60–62. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_38\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_38_17).
74. Pal, S., R.M. Oswal, and G.K. Vankar. "Recognition of Major Depressive Disorder and Its Correlates among Adult Male Patients in Primary Care." *Archives of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy* 20, no. 3 (2018): 55–62. <https://doi.org/10.12740/APP/89963>.
75. Papalkar, P., S. Kumar, S. Agrawal, N. Raisinghani, G. Marfani, and A. Mishra. "Heterotaxy Syndrome Presenting as Severe Pulmonary Artery Hypertension in a Young Old Female: Case Report." *Journal of Gerontology and Geriatrics* 66, no. 2 (2018): 59–61.
76. Parlani, S., S. Tripathi, and A. Bhoyar. "A Cross-Sectional Study to Explore the Reasons to Visit a Quack for Prosthodontic Solutions." *Journal of Indian Prosthodontist Society* 18, no. 3 (2018): 231–38. <https://doi.org/10.4103/jips.jips-24-18>.
77. Patel, T.V., M.J. Brahmabhatt, and G.K. Vankar. "Prevalence of Alcohol Use Disorders in Hospitalised Male Patients." *Archives of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy* 20, no. 4 (2018): 47–55. <https://doi.org/10.12740/APP/99147>.

78. Patil, S., R. Ranka, M. Chaudhary, A. Hande, and P. Sharma. "Prevalence of Dental Caries and Gingivitis among Pregnant and Nonpregnant Women." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 1 (2018): 44–47. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_5\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_5_18).
79. Phatak, S., and G. Marfani. "Galactocoele Ultrasonography and Elastography Imaging with Pathological Correlation." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 1 (2018): 1–3. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_51\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_51_18).
80. Rajan, R., S. Gosavi, V. Dhakate, and S. Ninave. "A Comparative Study of Equipotent Doses of Intrathecal Clonidine and Dexmedetomidine on Characteristics of Bupivacaine Spinal Anesthesia." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 1 (2018): 4–8. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_59\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_59_18).
81. Rajan, R., S.N. Gosavi, V. Dhakate, and S. Ninave. "A Comparative Study of Equipotent Doses of Intrathecal Clonidine and Dexmedetomidine on Characteristics of Bupivacaine Spinal Anesthesia." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 1 (2018): 4–8. <https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu>.
82. Ransing, R., S. Patil, K. Pevekar, K. Mishra, and B. Patil. "Unrecognized Prevalence of Macrocytosis among the Patients with First Episode of Psychosis and Depression." *Indian Journal of Psychological Medicine* 40, no. 1 (2018): 68–73. [https://doi.org/10.4103/IJPSYM.IJPSYM\\_139\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/IJPSYM.IJPSYM_139_17).
83. Rathi, A., R.S. Ransing, K.K. Mishra, and N. Narula. "Quality of Sleep among Medical Students: Relationship with Personality Traits." *Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research* 12, no. 9 (2018): VC01–4. <https://doi.org/10.7860/JCDR/2018/24685.12025>.
84. Rathi, N., M. Chandak, and G. Mude. "Comparative Evaluation of Dentinal Caries in Restored Cavity Prepared by Galvanic and Sintered Burs." *Contemporary Clinical Dentistry* 9, no. 5 (2018): S23–27. [https://doi.org/10.4103/ccd.ccd\\_801\\_17](https://doi.org/10.4103/ccd.ccd_801_17).
85. Rawlani, S.M., R. Bhowate, S. Kashikar, M. Khubchandani, S. Rawlani, and R. Chandak. "Morphological Evaluation of Temporo-Mandibular Joint in Indian Population." *Brazilian Dental Science* 21, no. 1 (2018): 44–53. <https://doi.org/10.14295/bds.2018.v21i1.1488>.
86. Samad, S., and S. Phatak. "Bilateral Axillary Accessory Breast with Ductal Ectasia: Ultrasonography and Elastographic Appearance." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 4 (2018): 206–8. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_54\\_18](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_54_18).
87. Samad, S.A., and S.V. Phatak. "An Unusual Case of Abdominoscrotal Swelling in a Young Patient-Hydrocele En Bissac." *Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research* 12, no. 11 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.7860/JCDR/2018/37640.12278>.
88. Sarode, R.D., and V.D. Tendolkar. "Psychological Pain as Predictor of Impulse Control among BAMS New Entrants: A Correlation Study." *Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences University* 13, no. 4 (2018): 171–74. [https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\\_26\\_19](https://doi.org/10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu_26_19).