

# 12<sup>TH</sup> WORLD PEDIATRIC CONGRESS

July 22-23, 2019 Melbourne, Australia

## Spectrum of acute flaccid paralysis in children

Shaila Ali, Zia-ur-Rehman and Tipu Sultan

The Children's Hospital & The Institute of Child Health Lahore, Pakistan

**Introduction:** Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) is a clinical syndrome characterized by rapid onset of weakness in a child aged less than 15 years due to any cause or any paralytic illness in a person of any age when polio is suspected. Exact cause of AFP with its incidence is needed for proper management.

**Objective:** To determine the spectrum of AFP cases in children.

**Study Design:** It is a retrospective, observational study.

**Place & Duration of Study:** Department of Neurology, Children Hospital & the Institute of Child Health, Lahore from January 2017 to October 2017.

**Methods:** Retrospectively, we extracted the data from multi centers of notified AFP cases. Causes of AFP were sorted out with their frequencies.

**Results:** Out of 376 cases of AFP, there was male predominance 59.57% (n=224) with male to female ratio 1.5:1 (age ranged 11-18 years). Highest number of patients falls in other categories (23.9%) including neuropathy, myopathy, spinal muscular atrophy, sepsis and TB spine, followed by GBS (18.88%), TN (12.76%), hypokalemic hypotonia (9.30%) and CNS infection (3.45%). Minor illnesses includes spinal muscular atrophy, cerebral palsy, cellulitis (0.53%) and rickets (0.26%), Wild polio cases declined because of intensive oral polio vaccine immunization and were found to be 1.59% (n=6) in 6 districts of Punjab having 4 cases in west and each in north and south region.

**Conclusion:** Non polio cases of AFP are more than polio. For global eradication of Poliovirus (PV), Pakistan should remain vigilant for effective surveillance of polio and non-polio cases.

### Biography

Shaila Ali has completed her Fellowship in 2012, in Pediatric Medicine from The Children's Hospital & The Institute of Child Health, Lahore under College of Physician and Surgeons, Pakistan. She did her 2nd Fellowship in Pediatric Neurology and completed it 2018, in same institution. She has special interest in pediatric stroke as well as neuromuscular problems in children. She is the In-Charge of Electrophysiology section of Pediatric Neurology. Currently she is at the Faculty Position and has published several papers in reputed journals.

shailakiran60@gmail.com

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