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Role of mucosal colonic biopsy in patients with chronic unexplained diarrhea who their colonoscopy is normal

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Objective: There are controversies about the importance of biopsies of normal colonic mucosa in the investigation of patients with chronic diarrhea so the aim of our work to evaluate the significance of mapping biopsy and its yield in patients of apparent endoscopically normal colon who is investigated for chronic diarrhea and to discover the prevalence of hidden diseases.

Methods: Of 300 consecutive patients undergoing colonoscopy by one endoscopist during a five year period, biopsies were taken in 200 cases of unexplained diarrhea of at least 4-6 weeks and their colorectal mucosa appeared macroscopically normal. All biopsies were reviewed by one pathologist.

Results: Of the 200 patients enrolled, 36(18%) cases were classified as no pathological diagnosis and 164(82%) cases showed histopathological changes- 121(73.78%) non specific inflammation, 19(11.58%) ulcerative colitis, 11(6.7%) collagenous colitis, 7(4.26%) lymphocytic colitis, and 6(3.65%) bilharzial colitis.

Conclusion: We conclude that the role of biopsies in chronic diarrhea patients with macroscopically normal colon at endoscopy is high as yielding a histological diagnosis in 26.21% of patients is so benefit to them as they may had modified the treatment after identification of a specific cause as collagenous colitis, lymphocytic colitis, ulcerative colitis and bilharzial colitis. So patients should be subjected to colonoscopy and biopsy to aid specific diagnoses.

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Spatio-temporal analysis of stripe rust on wheat crop in lower Pothohar region

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The present study focused on stripe rust incidences on wheat crop in lower Pothohar region to assess present damaging effects of stripe rust disease on wheat crop through geographic information system tools. As wheat is the main cereal crop that is grown in Jhelum district on both irrigated and non-irrigated lands. This study was done on lower Pothohar region i.e., Jhelum district while comparing the disease incidence data of stripe rust for six years (2010-2015). Climatic data including temperature, precipitation and humidity were analyzed for past six years because these variations are responsible for development of rust diseases in selected regions. Jhelum provides favorable moisture and rainfall to help germinate the rust spores on widespread wheat crop. Geographic information system tools provide valuable information through visual interpretation of attribute data. Standard deviational ellipses showed the extent of variation of disease exhibiting the directional trend for six years in which the ellipse area of stripe rust disease expanded during 2015. Spatial autocorrelation analysis concluded that stripe rust disease is exhibiting dispersed pattern during 2015 with clustered pattern in previous years. Therefore, this study provided the information about spread and shift of stripe rust in Jhelum district through broad spectrum of geospatial analysis that result in real time visualization and predictive analysis. Stripe rust is becoming more prevalent so the wheat varieties resistant against stripe rust needs to be cultivated. Fungicides are also need to be used against development of rust that will ultimately lead to high yield of wheat crop.

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