

Sudan University of Science and Technology

College of Graduate Studies

**Assessment of Cut Cholecystitis Using
Ultrasonography**

تقييم التهاب المرارة الحاد باستخدام الموجات فوق الصوتية

**Thesis Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of M.sc Degree in Medical Diagnostic
Ultrasound**

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الآية

قال تعالى:

وَقَدْ عَلِمْتُمُ الْمَوْتَىٰ أَنَّهَا كَالْحَيَاتِ كَالْحَيَاتِ

سورة طه، الآية (144)

Dedication

I dedicated this work to:

- *My father and mother*
- *My wife, sons and daughter*
- *All Academics who helped me*
- *My colleagues*

Acknowledgement

Great thanks and gratitude to all academics who contributed to bring this work successfully in good image.

Firstly I would like to express my deep gratitude Dr. Raga Ahmad Abouradia my supervisor to her scientific help and advice and for giving me a part of her time.

Also a great thanks to Dr. Alsir Ali for his advice and help

Secondly great thanks to Dr.Ahmad Altaieb the leader of Alshifa Clinic for his help and advice, also a great thanks to Ultrasound department in Turkey Hospital and for all colleagues.

Abstract

This study was conducted in Khartoum state, Sudan, in the ultrasound departments of Turkey hospital and Elshifa clinic. The problem of the study is increasing the incidence of acute cholecystitis, and importance of early diagnosis for easy management to prevent the occurrence of complications. The aim of this study was to analyze the performance of Ultrasonography in the diagnoses of acute cholecystitis. The early diagnoses acute cholecystitis is essential to minimize the mortality and morbidity. This is descriptive cross sectional study carried out during the period from September 2015 to March 2016. The study was classified and analyzed by statistical package social science. The analysis of the results showed that from 82 patients with clinical suspected of acute cholecystitis, 52 female and 30 male, their age ranged from 30 – 80 years. The study found that that the acute calculous cholecystitis was higher than acute a calculous cholecystitis .Also the study found that ultrasound is more sensitive for diagnosing gallbladder, wall thickening, murphy sign and distension of gallbladder. The study concluded that ultrasound at a great value in increasing accuracy in the diagnoses of acute cholecystitis and it decrease the false negative diagnostic rate and improve the clinical outcome. The study recommended that the service of the ultrasound department in hospitals must be available 24 hours because acute cholecystitis is an urgent case.

المستخلص

أجريت هذه الدراسة في ولاية الخرطوم - السودان باقسام الموجات فوق الصوتية بمستشفى التركي و عيادة الشفاء.

. تكمن مشكلة البحث في ان تزايد حالات التهاب المرارة الحاد و ضرورة التشخيص و العلاج المبكر حتى تقلل من حطورة مضاعفات المرض التي يمكن ان تؤدي الى الوفاة . الهدف من هذه الدراسة هو تأكيد دور و أداء الموجات فوق الصوتية في تشخيص التهاب المرارة الحاد . هذه الدراسة دراسة وصفية ، مقطعية أجريت في الفترة من سبتمبر 2015م حتى مارس 2016م . تم جمع البيانات ، تصنيفها وتحليلها بواسطة برنامج الحزم الإحصائية للعلوم الاجتماعية . تم جمع البيانات من 82 مريض حضروا لقسم الموجات فوق الصوتية بأعراض التهاب المرارة الحادو قد كان عدد النساء 52 مريضة و الرجال 30 مريض. و قد تراوحت أعمارهم بين 30-80 سنة.

افادت الدراسة أن التهاب المرارة الحاد مع حصوة المرارة هو الاعلى نسبة من التهاب المرارة الحاد من غير حصوة. كالك توصلت الدراسة الى أن الموجات فوق الصوتية ذات درجة عالية من الدقة في تشخيص زيادة سمك جدار المرارة، زيادة حجم المرارة، و الالم الحاد في منطقة الالتهاب.

و قد خلصت الدراسة الى ان للموجات فوق الصوتية دور عظيم و قيم في زيادة الدقة لتشخيص حالات التهاب المرارة الحاد و ان استخدام الموجات فوق الصوتية في تشخيص التهاب المرارة الحاد يؤدي الى نقص معدل التشخيص الخاطئ السالب و تزيد من دعم مخرجات التشخيص .

أوصت الدراسة بضرورة توفر خدمة الموجات فوق الصوتية بالمستشفيات على مدى 24 ساعة لأن التهاب المرارة الحاد من الحالات الطارئة.

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List of abbreviations:

AC	Acute cholecystitis
GB	Gall Bladder
PHT	Portal Hypertension
PV	Portal Vein
RUQ	Right Upper Quadrant
UQP	Upper Quadrant Pain

Chapter One

Introduction

Chapter One: Introduction

1.1 Introduction:

Acute cholecystitis occurs as a result of inflammation of the gall bladder wall, usually caused by impaction of gallstone in the gall bladder neck obstructing the gall bladder. 90 to 95% of acute cholecystitis patients have cholelithiasis (acute calculous cholecystitis), the remaining 5 to 10% have acute acalculous cholecystitis.

Acute emphysematous cholecystitis is another form of acute cholecystitis characterized by the presence of gas within the wall and/or lumen of the gall bladder. It occurs more commonly in diabetic men and less frequently in association with cholelithiasis.

Emphysematous cholecystitis is considered either a complication of Ac or a separate entity. The patient presents with fever, leukocytosis, biliary colic and right upper quadrant (RUQ) pain, the pain often begins after fatty meal. Risk factors for cholecystitis mirror those for cholelithiasis and include increasing age, female sex, certain ethnic groups, obesity or rapid weight loss, drugs, and pregnancy.

Complications of acute cholecystitis include emphysematous, perforation, pericholecystic abscess, and development of empyema.

Ultrasound significantly aids in the diagnosis of acute cholecystitis, ultrasound is a more sensitive and specific method in diagnosing the gall bladder stones, gall bladder texture and gall bladder wall thickness, Murphy sign.

Ultrasound findings of acute calculous cholecystitis are gall stone, gall bladder wall thickness > 3 mm, positive sonographic Murphy sign and distension of gall bladder.

Ultrasound findings of acute acalculous cholecystitis are gall bladder wall thickness > 3 mm, positive sonographic Murphy sign, pericholecystic fluid and intraluminal gas or membrane.

1.2 Problem of the study:

Increasing the incidence of acute cholecystitis, and importance of early diagnosis for easy management to prevent the occurrence of complications.

1.3 Objectives:

1.3.1 The general objective:

To find out the role of ultrasound in diagnosis of acute cholecystitis among Sudanese population.

1.3.2 Specific objectives:

1. To identify the main sonographic findings in acute cholecystitis among Sudanese population.
2. To find out the correlation acute cholecystitis with residence and age.
3. To find out the main complications of acute cholecystitis and correlate it with obesity.

1.4 Over view of the study:

This study was concerned with characterize of acute cholecystitis sonographically. Using gall bladder texture and gall bladder wall thickness, murphy sign, analysis accordingly it falls into five chapters. Chapter one is an introduction which include introductory notes on acute cholecystitis causes and complications, role of ultrasound as well as the problem and objectives, while chapter two include gall bladder anatomy, physiology and pathology, chapter three deals with the methodology, where it provides of material and methods used to acquire the data in this study as well as the methods analysis approach.

While the results were presented in chapter four and finally chapter five include discussion of the results conclusion and recommendation followed by references and appendices.

Chapter Two

Literature review and background studies

Chapter Two

Literature review and background studies

2.The Gallbladder and bile ducts.

2.1 Anatomy:

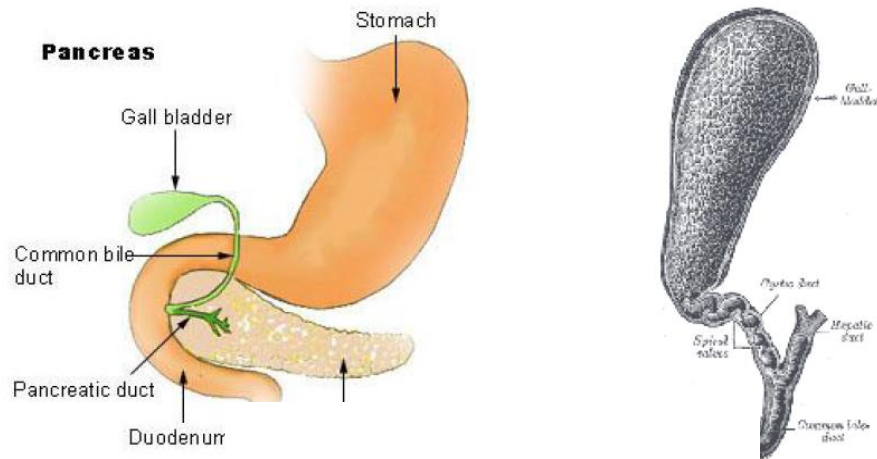
2.1.1 Normal anatomy:

The gallbladder is a pear-shaped organ which lies on the visceral inferior surface of the liver between segments IV and V of the liver. The first and second parts of the duodenum lie behind it and the transverse colon lies below. It is covered with peritoneum except where it is adherent to a depression in the liver surface known as the gallbladder fossa. The expanded lower end of the gallbladder, or fundus, may or may not project beyond the inferior border of the liver in the region of the right ninth costal cartilage and the body of the organ narrows to form the neck which terminates in the cystic duct. The dilated area proximal to the junction of the neck and cystic duct is known as Hartmann's pouch. The cystic duct arises from the neck of the gallbladder and joins the common hepatic duct. It is typically of 1-3 mm diameter although may be much wider in some individuals. The mucosa is arranged in spiral folds known as the valve of Heister. It most frequently is 3-4 cm in length and joins the common hepatic duct at a slight angle.

The main blood supply to the gallbladder is provided by the cystic artery, which arises from the right branch of the hepatic artery posterior to the common hepatic duct. The cystic artery runs above and behind the cystic duct to reach the neck of the gallbladder where it divides into an anterior and a posterior branch. The gallbladder also receives a variable blood supply from the liver through its bed.

A major portion of the venous drainage passes directly to the liver through the gallbladder fossa but veins may be seen around the cystic artery and these drain directly into the portal vein.

The cystic lymph node lies adjacent to the cystic artery where it meets the gallbladder wall, and is therefore a useful landmark during cholecystectomy. Lymph from the gallbladder and bile ducts passes through the cystic node and into other hepatic nodes in the edge of the lesser omentum.



Richards Snell clinical anatomy

2.1.2 Bile ducts:

The right and left hepatic bile ducts fuse at a variable distance below the liver to form the common hepatic duct. The area between the common hepatic duct which lies within the edge of the lesser omentum, the liver and the cystic duct, is called Calot's triangle. Its contents are the cystic artery and lymph node and its accurate identification and dissection are crucial to the safe performance of cholecystectomy. (n.b. Calot actually described the triangle lying between the cystic artery, cystic duct and hepatic duct but the above description is the one usually referred to and of more practical relevance.)

The hepatic artery lies on the left of the common hepatic duct and the portal vein lies posteriorly. The cystic duct joins the common hepatic duct to form the

common bile duct approximately 2cm above the duodenum. As it passes behind the first part of the duodenum and the head of the pancreas the bile duct loses its peritoneal covering, and it enters the duodenum through the posteromedial wall to join the main pancreatic duct within the ampulla of Vater, which then opens into the duodenum via a papilla in the second part of the duodenum approximately 10cm beyond the pylorus. Circular muscle fibres are present around the terminal portion of the bile and pancreatic ducts and their confluence at the ampulla. The combination of all these sphincteric mechanisms is known as the sphincter of Oddi. The blood supply to the bile ducts is complex and branches are received from the gastroduodenal, hepatic and cystic arteries, as well as the coeliac and superior mesenteric vessels. Two vessels run along the lateral borders of the supraduodenal segment and 60% of their blood supply is provided from arteries below, mainly from the retroduodenal and retroportal vessels. The right hepatic artery provides most of the blood supply of the main bile duct from above and only 2% of the blood is derived from the common hepatic artery. This arrangement of the blood supply suggests that bile duct damage during surgery can be minimized by restricting dissection at the lateral margins of the common bile duct so as to avoid damaging the axial vessels. Flush ligation of the cystic duct on the common bile duct is also best avoided for the same reason. Anastomotic complications after transplant surgery may also be related to arterial damage.

The nerves to the extrahepatic bile ducts are derived from segments 7-9 of the thoracic sympathetic chain and from the parasympathetic vagi. Afferent nerves which include pain fibers from the biliary tract run in sympathetic nerves and pass through the coeliac plexus and the greater splanchnic nerves to reach the thoracic spinal cord via the white rami communicantes and dorsal ganglia. The preganglionic efferent nerves from the spinal cord relay with cell bodies in the coeliac plexus and the post-ganglionic fibers run with the hepatic artery to supply

the biliary tract. A small contribution of pain afferents may travel within the right phrenic nerve and peritoneum below the right diaphragm. These fibers may account for the radiation of gallbladder pain to the right shoulder tip during attacks of gallstone colic. Vagal fibers supply the hilum of the liver and the bile ducts. Although vagal stimulation results in gallbladder contraction and relaxation of the sphincter of Oddi, the effects are overshadowed by the action of gastrointestinal hormones such as cholecystokinin.

2.1.3 Variations and anomalies of anatomy Gallbladder:

The gallbladder may rarely be absent or rudimentary, and when this occurs it may be associated with other congenital anomalies such as tracheo-oesophageal fistula or imperforate anus. Left-sided or intrahepatic gallbladders and double and triple gallbladders have also been reported. Discovery of duplications at operation, usually by operative cholangiography, should be followed by removal of both gallbladders. A second operation may be necessary later if only one organ is removed. The gallbladder may be abnormal in structure, for example the body may be divided completely or partially by a septum. Complete division may result in two separate cavities fused at their necks to form a single cystic duct or they may drain by two separate ducts. Partial separation of the fundus from the body seen at surgery or during pre-operative imaging is known as a Phrygian cap, and is caused by a localised thickening of the gallbladder wall. It is of little significance and gallbladder function is usually normal. Complete investment of the gallbladder with peritoneum can predispose to torsion around its associated mesentery, particularly when this is restricted to the neck of the organ so that the body and fundus remain free. Bile ducts Major variations in bile duct anatomy are common, and their frequency has been analyzed in a large series of operative cholangiograms. The most important anatomical variations from an operative viewpoint are those pertaining to the cystic duct (figure 2). The most important,

and potentially dangerous, variations involve different types of right subsegmental ducts and their drainage into the biliary tract via, or close to, the cystic duct.

A few examples of the commoner variations include:

1. A high insertion of the cystic duct into the region of the common bile duct bifurcation (3.1%).
2. An accessory hepatic duct, defined as a separate channel draining a segment of the right lobe of the liver into the common hepatic duct, cystic duct or gallbladder. The incidence is between 1 and 4% and it may be the only drainage from the relevant segment. An injury can easily occur to these ducts during cholecystectomy and may result in partial or total occlusion of a portion of the biliary tract as there is a lack of interductal communications within the liver.
3. The cystic duct entering the right hepatic duct. This is an uncommon variation (0.2%), but increases the risk of transection or ligation of the right duct during surgery.
4. The right and left hepatic ducts may join the common hepatic duct in a variable manner, and occasionally this junction may be truly intrahepatic. The right duct occasionally fuses with the cystic duct.
5. Duplication of the cystic ducts is very rare. Intraoperative cholangiography is used for the recognition of these anomalies. Accessory ducts may be tied off if small, but larger ducts should be preserved and implanted into a Roux loop if necessary. Bile peritonitis or fistula may be a consequence of the unrecognized division of such a duct. Anomalies of the common bile duct itself are very rare but ectopic drainage of accessory ducts into the stomach has been described on five occasions, including an original report by Vesalius in 1543. The anomaly has been associated with symptomatic biliary gastritis. Occasionally during cholecystectomy an accessory duct (or ducts) is encountered in the gallbladder bed — a duct of Luschka. When missed these ducts may present as bile leaks in the post-operative

period. Once thought to be intrahepatic ducts draining directly into the gallbladder, anatomical studies and the common finding of two transacted ducts confirms that they are segmental or subsegmental ducts lying superficially in the gallbladder bed. They should be clipped or sutured to prevent leakage.

2.1.4 Hepatic and cystic arteries:

Major anomalies of vessel origin are particularly important during hepatectomy and pancreatectomy. The left hepatic artery arises from the left gastric, splenic or superior mesenteric in 3-6% of the population and may be especially at risk during gastrectomy and laparoscopic fundoplication. The right hepatic artery arises from the superior mesenteric artery in 10-20% and an accessory right hepatic artery arising from the superior mesenteric is found in 5% of patients. The right hepatic artery is particularly at risk during cholecystectomy if it takes a tortuous course close to the cystic duct and neck of the gallbladder, as the cystic artery may be very short in this variation. Anatomical variations of the cystic artery itself are common, and it may arise from the left, common or accessory hepatic arteries and pass anterior or posterior to the main bile duct. More than one cystic artery is present in some patients. The cystic artery not uncommonly runs in front of the common bile duct, which increases its risk of damage to the bile duct during cystic artery dissection and ligation.

2.2 Gallbladder physiology:

The gallbladder is a pear-shaped, hollow structure located under the liver and on the right side of the abdomen. Its primary function is to store and concentrate bile, a yellow-brown digestive enzyme produced by the liver. The gallbladder is part of the biliary tract.

The gallbladder serves as a reservoir for bile while it's not being used for digestion. The gallbladder's absorbent lining concentrates the stored bile. When food enters the small intestine, a hormone called cholecystokinin is released, signaling the

gallbladder to contract and secrete bile into the small intestine through the common bile duct.

The bile helps the digestive process by breaking up fats. It also drains waste products from the liver into the duodenum, a part of the small intestine.⁽⁶⁾

2.3 Gallbladder Pathology:

The term "Gallbladder Pathology" is used for several types of conditions that can affect your gallbladder. The gallbladder is a small pear-shaped sac located underneath your liver. Your gallbladder's main function is to store the bile produced by your liver and pass it along to the small intestine. Bile helps you digest fats in your small intestine.⁽⁸⁾

The majority of gallbladder diseases are caused by inflammation due to irritation of the gallbladder wall, which is known as cholecystitis. This inflammation is often due to gallstones blocking the ducts leading to the small intestine and causing bile to build up. It may eventually lead to necrosis (tissue destruction) or gangrene. Other diseases of the gallbladder include gallbladder polyps and gallbladder cancer.

2.3.1 Gallstones:

Gallstones develop when substances in the bile (such as cholesterol, bile salts, and calcium) form hard particles that block the passageway to the gallbladder. Gallstones also tend to form when the gallbladder doesn't empty completely or often enough. They can be as small as a grain of sand or as large as a golf ball.

Numerous factors contribute to your risk of gallstones.

These include:

1. Being overweight or obese.
2. Eating a high-fat or high-cholesterol diet.
3. Having diabetes.

4. Being age 60 or older.
5. Taking medications that contain estrogen.
6. Having a family history of gallstones.
7. being female

2.3.2 Cholecystitis:

Cholecystitis is the most common type of gallbladder disease. It presents itself as either an acute or chronic inflammation of the gallbladder.

2.3.2.1 Acute Cholecystitis:

Acute cholecystitis is generally caused by gallstones, but it may also be the result of tumors or various other illnesses. It may present with pain in the upper right side or upper middle part of the abdomen. The pain tends to occur right after a meal and ranges from sharp pangs to dull aches that can radiate to your right shoulder. Acute cholecystitis can also cause:

1. Fever.
2. Nausea.
3. Vomiting.
4. Jaundice.
5. Different colored stools

2.3.2.2 Chronic Cholecystitis:

After several attacks of acute cholecystitis, the gallbladder will shrink and lose its ability to store and release bile. Abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting may occur.

2.3.3 Choledocholithiasis:

Gallstones may become lodged in the neck of the gallbladder or in the bile ducts. When the gallbladder is plugged in this way, bile can't exit. This may lead to the gallbladder becoming inflamed or distended. The plugged bile ducts will further prevent bile from traveling from the liver to the intestines. Choledocholithiasis can cause:

1. Extreme pain in the middle of your upper abdomen.
2. Fever.
3. Chills.
4. Nausea.
5. Vomiting.

2.3.4 Acalculous Gallbladder Disease:

Acalculous gallbladder disease, or biliary dyskinesia, occurs without the presence of gallstones. It can be chronic or acute and may result from the gallbladder muscles or valve not working properly. The symptoms can include abdominal pain on the right side of your body that radiates to your shoulder. Eating foods high in fat often triggers this. Related symptoms may include:

1. Nausea.
2. Vomiting.
3. Bloating.
4. Loose stools.

2.3.5 Sclerosing Cholangitis:

Inflammation, scarring, and damage to the bile ducts is referred to as sclerosing cholangitis. It's unknown what causes the disease. People with sclerosing cholangitis may have an enlarged liver or spleen along with a decrease in appetite and weight loss.

2.3.6 Gallbladder Cancer:

Cancer of the gallbladder is a relatively rare disease. If it's not treated, however, it can spread from the inner walls of the gallbladder to the outer layers and then to the other organs and ducts. The symptoms of gallbladder cancer may be similar to those of acute cholecystitis.

2.3.7 Gallbladder Polyps:

Gallbladder polyps are lesions or growths that occur on the gallbladder. They're usually benign and have no symptoms.

2.3.8 Gangrene of the Gallbladder:

Gangrene develops when the gallbladder stops functioning due to inadequate blood flow. This may occur due to infections, injury, diabetes, surgery or diseases related to blood circulation.

The symptoms of gallbladder gangrene can include:

1. Pain in the gallbladder region.
2. Fever.
3. Nausea or vomiting.
4. Gas disorientation.
5. Low blood pressure.

2.3.9 Abscess of the Gallbladder:

Abscess of the gallbladder results when an area of the body becomes inflamed with pus. Pus is the accumulation of white blood cells, dead tissue, and bacteria. It may present with upper right-sided pain in the abdomen.

2.4 Methods of Diagnosing acutecholecystitis:

Acute cholecystitis can be diagnosed by ultrasound, CT-scan, MRI.

2.4.1 ComputedTomography scan:

can be useful in diagnosing acutecholecystitis. Common C.T finding of acutecholecystitis include wallthickening, pericholecysticfluid, dissension, high attenuation bile, and subserosaedome. When these findings are present the diagnosis of acute choleystitis can be suggested.

2.4.2 Magnetic Resonance Imaging:

Has high degree of accuracy in diagnosing acute cholecystitis based on the single finding of pericholecystic a similar level of accuracy is demonstrated in detecting gall bladder stones, biliary duct calculi are detected with even greater accuracy than with sonography in patients with acute cholecystitis.

2.4.3 Ultrasound :

significantly aid in the diagnose of acute cholecystitis, ultrasound is more sensitive and specific method in diagnosing the gall bladder stones gall bladder texture and gall bladder wall thickness, Murphy sign.

2.4.3.1 Sonographics technique:

The gallbladder should be examined in numerous patient positions: supine, left lateral decubitus, and the left posterior oblique position, in order to demonstrate stone mobility, scans may need to be performed in prone or erect position to show acoustic shadowing of calculi, it is essential to use the highest frequency possible and to have the transducer focus in the region of the suspected calculi. The sound beam is directed through the most dependent portion of the gallbladder. In most supine position this is the region of the gall bladder neck and cystic duct. In prone and erect positions the fundus is the most dependent region. Every study of the gallbladder include an image demonstrating the gall bladder neck to prove or rule out the presence of a stone in this location.

"Scanning with high resolution high frequency curved linear or linear array transducers is mandatory in patient when gall stones are not detected, this minimize missing tiny gallstones , especially in the fundus of superficial gallbladder.

The standard measurement of the gallbladder not exceed 4 cm in width (transverse diameter), the standard measurement of the gallbladder wall not exceed 3 mm (the anterior wall) and the standard measurement of the common bile duct not exceed 9 mm in diameter near its entrance into the pancreas.

2.5 Sonographic appearance of the gall bladder with acute cholecystitis :

The two most useful secondary supporting signs in patients with suspected acute cholecystitis are gallbladder wall thickening ($> 3\text{mm}$) and a positive sonographic Murphy sign. A positive sonographic Murphy sign consists of maximum reproducible tenderness over the sonographically localized gallbladder. A negative sonographic Murphy sign is: absence of tenderness, diffuse tenderness, tenderness not localized to the GB or maximal tenderness is inconsistently present over the gallbladder.

In a patient with suspected acute cholecystitis the presence of gallstones plus either a thickened GB wall or a positive Murphy sign has a positive predictive value of greater than 99% for patients whose pain is cured by cholecystectomy.



<http://www.radiologyassistant.nl>

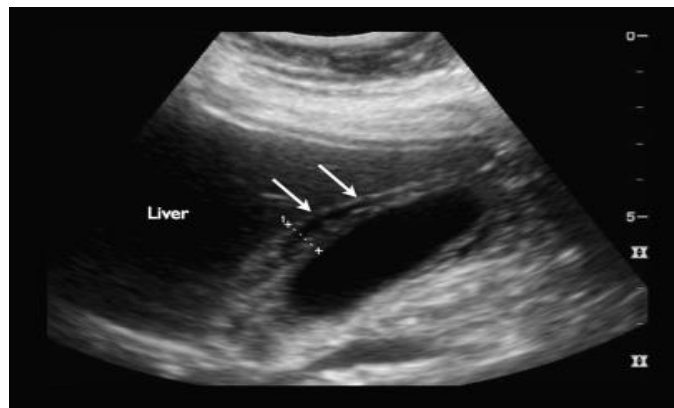
Figure (2-2) ultrasound image shows gallstones plus a thickened GB wall.

A negative Murphy sign can be extremely helpful since it redirects the search for other causes of the patient's symptoms. This is especially true when stones are imaged in the GB, since sonographic detection of gallstones might prematurely halt the investigation when another cause of pain is actually present.

Ultrasound findings of acalculous cholecystitis are nonspecific. Whenever you have a hospitalized patient who subsequently develops abdominal pain and they have one or more of the following criteria, consider acalculous cholecystitis:

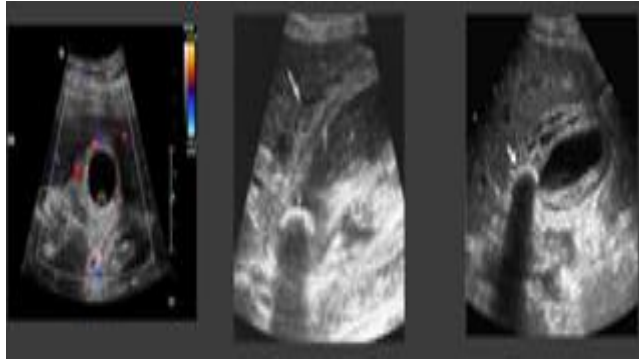
1. Gallbladder wall thickening
2. A positive sonographic Murphy sign
3. pericholecystic fluid
4. Intraluminal gas or membranes

If a suspected acalculous cholecystitis gallbladder appears normal, a 24 hour follow up scan is recommended to demonstrate possible wall thickening. Acute acalculous cholecystitis remains a difficult diagnosis from both an imaging and clinical perspective. CT scanning to detect pericholecystic abnormalities (indicative of small perforations) and progressive gallbladder wall thickening on serial sonographic examinations appear to be the most reliable signs of acute acalculous cholecystitis currently available.



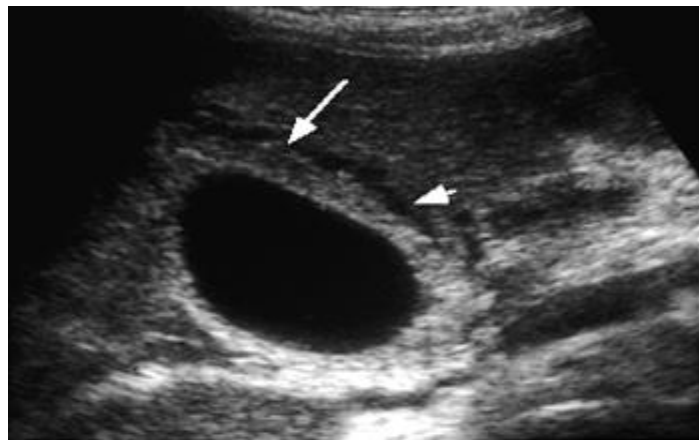
<http://www.emedicine.medscape.com>

Figure (2-3) ultrasound image shows gallbladder wall thickening with pericholecystic fluid



<http://www.Slideshare.net>

Figure (2-4) ultrasound image shows gallstones with edematous thickened GB wall.



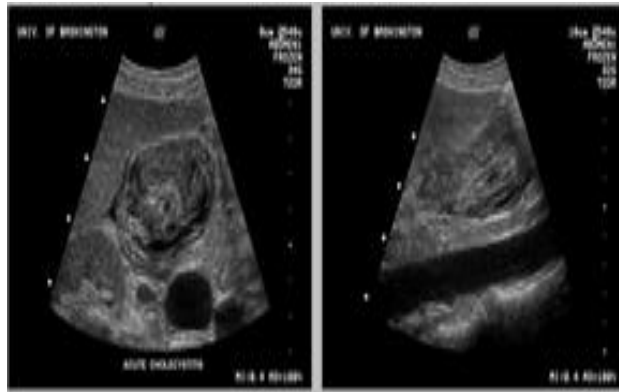
<http://www.ualberta.ca>

Figure (2-5) ultrasound image of right upper quadrant in patient with acute cholecystitis reveals edematous marked thickening of GB wall.



<http://www.scielo.br>

Figure (2-6) ultrasound image shows emphysematous cholecystitis. Observe echogenic parietal image of the GB with reverberation compatible with gas.



<http://www.Slideplayer.com>

Figure (2-7) Transverse and longitudinal ultrasound image demonstrate complex echo pattern in the area of the GB and pericholecystic fluid. Acute gangrenous cholecystitis

2.6 Previous studies:

2.6.1 The accuracy of ultrasonography for diagnosing acute cholecystitis in the regional hospital. Dr. Krishna Kumar .29 oct.2015 Uttar Pradesh, India:

A total of 145 patients required an emergency cholecystectomy in the study period, 105 of them underwent ultrasonography, for cholelithiasis, ultrasonography had 100% sensitivity, when combined with positive Murphy sign and wall thickening and elevated neutrophil count, and ultrasound showing acute cholecystitis yield a sensitivity of 74% specificity of 62% positive predictive value of 80% and negative predictive value of 53% for the diagnosis of acute cholecystitis.

2.6.2 Role of ultrasonography for acute cholecystitic conditions in the emergency room. Golea Adela , Rado Ion Badea Titus Suteu. 2010 Romania.:

The study group included 179 patients with a mean age of 59.31 ± 15.82 years ultrasonography is a method of high accuracy diagnosing of gallbladder lithiasis (93.39%), wall thickening of gallbladder. The increased risk of developing severe form of acute cholecystitis inpatient without documented lithiasis proves the essential contribution of ultrasonography in optimizing emergency surgical decision and therapy.

2.6.3 Diagnosis of acute cholecystitis using ultrasonography. Mawia Gamerelden . Saliman Mohamed. Abd al Rahim Suliman. Mohammed Yousif. May – June 2013. Sudan:

The aim of this study was to analyse the performance of ultrasonography in the diagnoses of acute cholecystitis. The study included 100 patients with clinical suspected of acute cholecystitis were randomized into two groups the first group included these patients with final diagnoses of acute cholecystitis and other group included patients with final alternative diagnoses of acute cholecystitis. The study found that the incidence of acute cholecystitis is high in obese , acute cholecystitis incidence is higher within age of 41.50, female (57%) more

affected, Khartoum population suffer more than Omdurman and Kasala (71%), also tenderness is observed on examination within (30%).

It concluded that ultrasound had a great value in increasing accuracy in diagnosis of acute cholecystitis, and it decrease the false negative diagnostic rate and improves the clinical outcome.

2.6.4 Does ultrasonography accurately diagnose acute cholecystitis. Hamish Howong, Marc, Jason doyle. June 2014. Canadian journal of emergency:

A total of 107 patient presented during the study period: 69 woman and 38 men with mean aged of 55.5 year. For cholelithiasis, ultrasonography had 100% sensitivity, followed by positive Murphy sign (64%) and elevated total white blood cell count (62%), saw ultrasound help in diagnoses of acute cholecystitis and improve the clinical outcome.

2.6.5 Sonographic diagnosis of gangrenous cholecystitis. Ronald R. Townsend. 2016. University of Colorado.:

Gangrenous cholecystitis is an advanced form of acute cholecystitis that is associated with an increased complication rate. The study has done in total of 50 patients. Ultrasound play an important role in this situation by helping to differentiate those patients who required emergency surgical form those who do not.

Chapter Three

Methodology

Chapter three: methodology

3.1 Type of the study:

This is retrospective cross sectional study was conducted in Turkey hospital and Elshifa clinic, in the department of the ultrasound.

3.2 Study area :

Turkey hospital and tibia medical center in Khartoum state.

3.3 Duration of the study:

The study duration from January 2016 to June 2016 and the data were collected from January to June 2016.

3.4 Population of the study:

82 patients that were clinically suspected of having acute cholecystitis and were emitted to the area of the study.

3.5 Inclusion criteria:

The patient were come with right upper quadrant (RUQ) pain. Positive Murphy sign, fever perform by surgical or physician who estimated the patient suggested having acute cholecystitis with more assessment including laboratory investigation (elevated white blood cells).

3.6 Exclusion criteria: patients not presented by clinical diagnosis of acute cholecystitis and children.

3.7 Sampling:

The sample of this study is a convenience sample takes those patients which were accessible at the area and duration of the study.

3.8 Data collection:

The data was collected using the following variables:

Size and texture of gallbladder (Ultrasound findings):

- Gallbladder wall measurement.
- Murphy sign.
- Patient's age, gender and residence.

- Association of other Pathology.

3.8.1:Equipment used:

Ultrasound machines with transducer frequency 3.5 MHz, our examinations were done by:

1. MINDRAY ultrasound machine.
2. Model DP 2200.2008 – 05made in Germany with convex transducer 3.5MHz.
3. FUKUDA 4100 ultrasound machine
4. made in Japan .1995 with Convex transducer 3.5 MHz.
5. coupling gel and TV card with 16 bit to capture the ultrasound image using the personal computer.

3.8.2Sonographic technique:

We have examined gallbladder in numerous patient positions: supine, left lateral decubitus and left posterior oblique position in order to demonstrate stone mobility, scans may need to be performed in prone position or erect position to show acoustic shadow of calculi it is essential to use the highest frequency possible and to have the transducer focused in the region of the suspected calculi. The sound beam is directed through the most depended portion of the gallbladder. In most supine patients this is the region of the gall bladder neck and cystic duct. In prone and erect positions the fundus is the most depended region. Every study of the gallbladder was included an image demonstrating the gallbladder neck to prove or rule out the presence of a stone in this location. **Dean Devin 2005**

Scanning with high resolution high frequency curved liner or linear array transducers is mandatory in patents when gall stones are not detected, this minimizes missing tiny stone ,especially in the fundus of superficial gall bladder.

The standard measurement of the gallbladder not exceed 4cm in width (transverse diameters). **Dean Devin 2005**

The standard measurement of the gall bladder wall not exceed 3mm (the anterior wall) **Dean Devin 2005**

The standard measurement of the common bile duct not exceed 9 mm in diameter near it is entrance into pancreas **Dean Devin2005**

Compression as the right upper quadrant has been done to detect murphy's sign. Presents of gall bladder stone mainly impacted stone in the gall bladder neck was detected. **Dean Devin2005**

Ultrasound finding of acute calculous cholecystitis:

1. gall stone.
2. gall bladder wall thickening >3 mm.
3. Positive sonographic murphy sign.
4. distention of gall bladder. **Dean Devin2005**

Ultrasound findings of acute a calculus cholecystitis:

1. gall bladder wall thickness > 3 mm.
2. positiv sonographic murphy sign.
3. Pericholecystic fluid.
4. intra luminal gas or membrane **Dean Devin2005**

3.9The data analysis:

The data was analyzed by using statistical packaged for social science (SPSS) and excel under windows.

3.10 Ethical consideration:

The procedure of the scanning with ultrasound was explained to the patient and the purpose of incorporating his data in the study. Permission from the hospital and the department was granted.

Chapter Four

Results

Chapter Four: Results
Part One: Frequency Distribution

Table (4-1): Frequency distribution according to gender

Gender	Frequency	%
Males	30	36.59
Females	52	63.41
Total	82	100

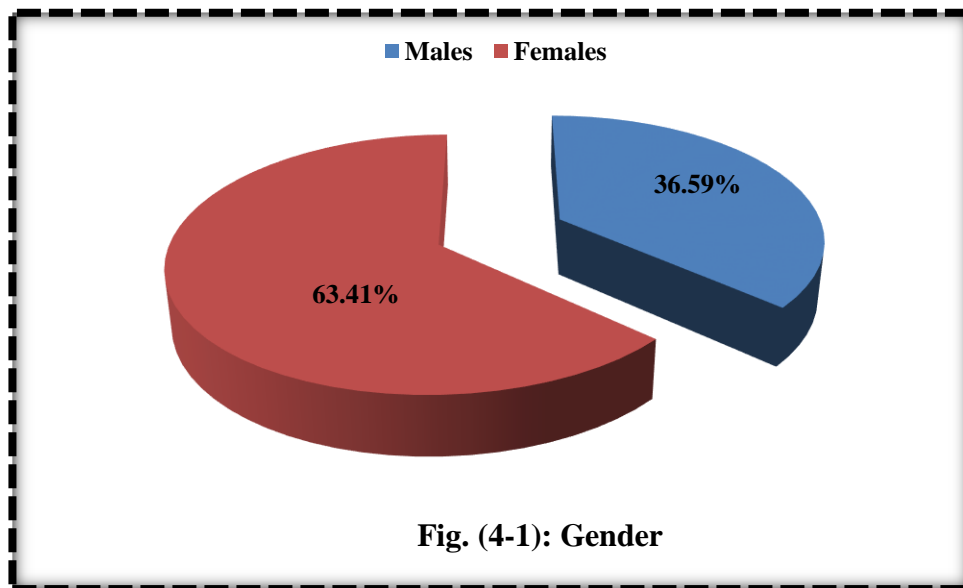


Table (4-2): Frequency distribution according to pregnancy

Pregnancy	Frequency	%
Pregnant	-	-
Not pregnant	52	100
Total	52	100

Table (4-3): Frequency distribution according to age

Age group (years)	Frequency	%
<30	1	1.22
30-39	13	15.85
40-49	28	34.15
50-59	25	30.49
60-69	11	13.41
≥70	4	4.88
Total	82	100

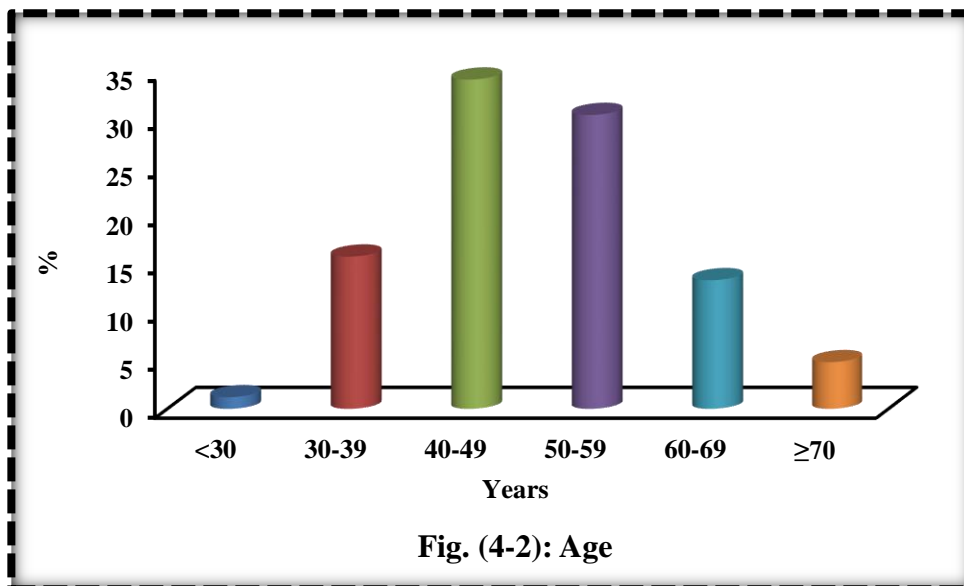


Table (4-4): Frequency distribution according to residence

Residence	Frequency	%
Northern States	15	18.29
Central States	49	59.76
Eastern States	2	2.44
Western States	16	19.51
Total	82	100

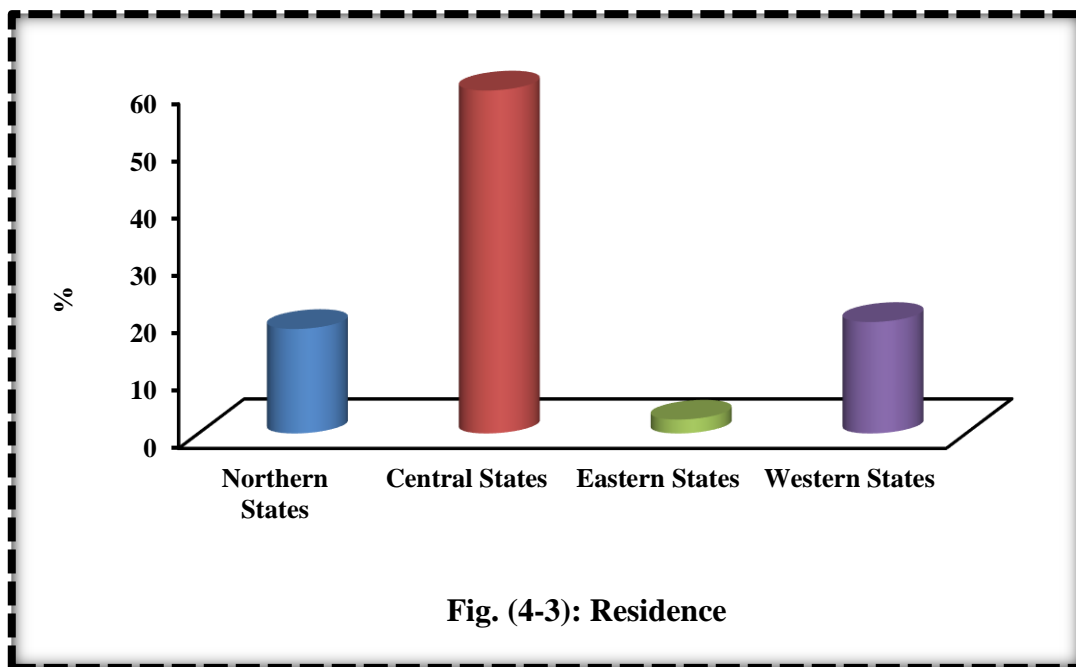


Table (4-5): Frequency distribution according to other pathology

Other pathology	Frequency	%
Diabetic	5	6.10
Jundace	3	3.66
Ascitis + PV dilation	1	1.22
Jundace + PHT + ascitis + plural effusion	1	1.22
Free from other pathology	72	87.80
Total	82	100

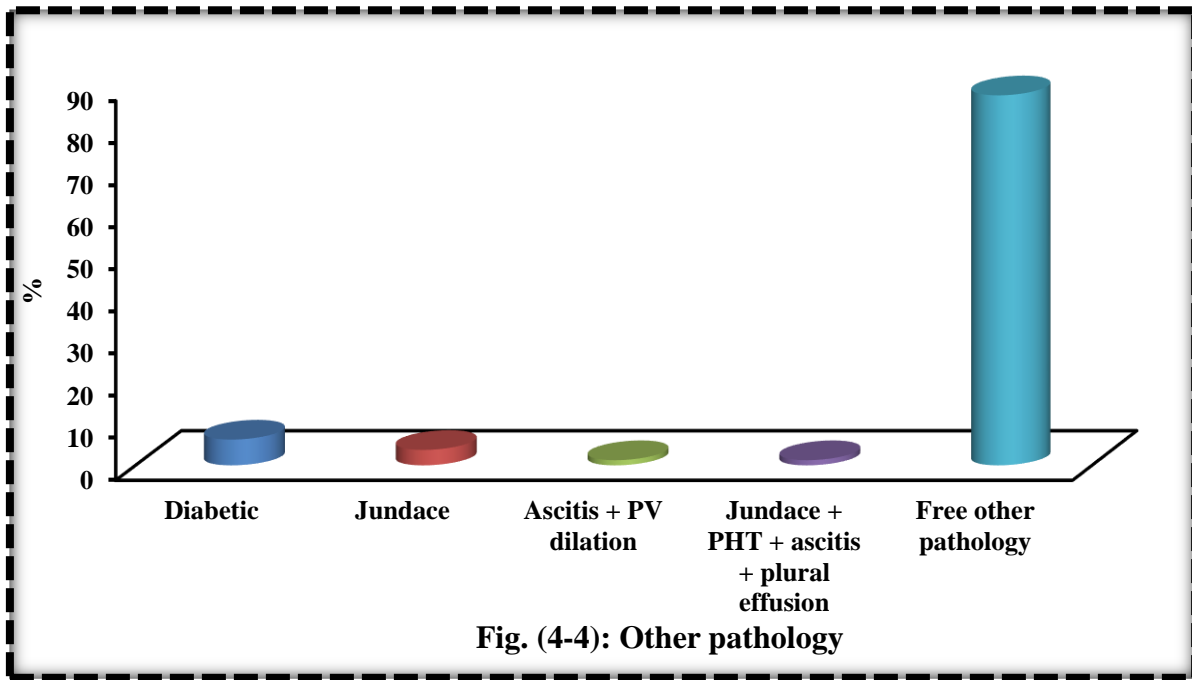


Table (4-6): Frequency distribution according to obesity

Obesity	Frequency	%
Obese	13	15.85
None	69	84.15
Total	82	100

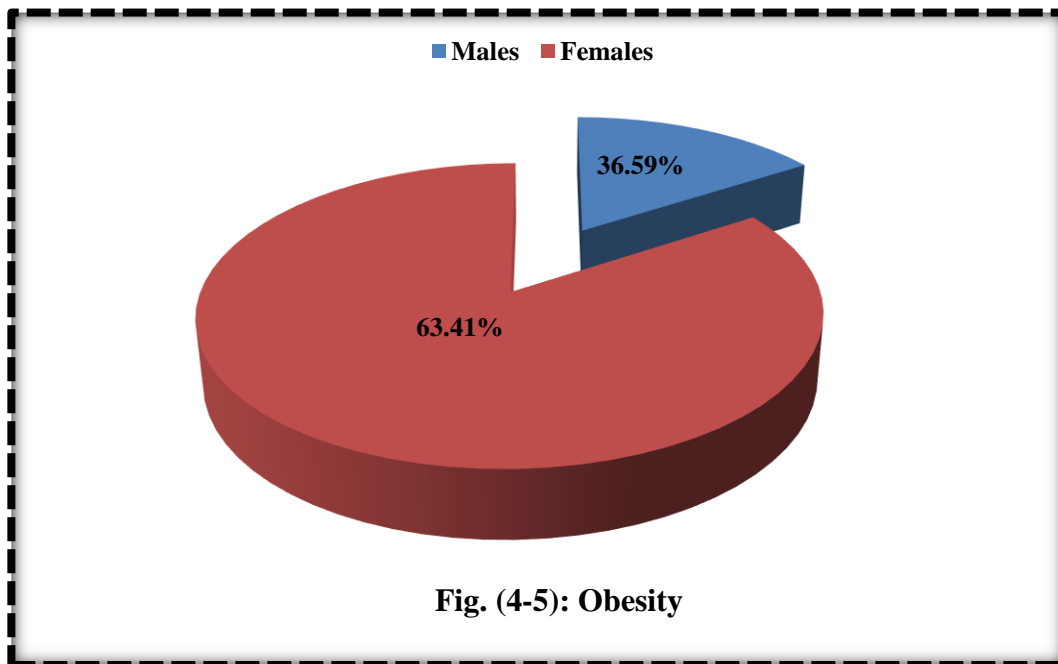


Table (4-7): Frequency distribution according to ultrasound findings

U/S findings	Frequency	%
Gall stone + gall bladder wall thickness >3 mm + positive sonographic Murphy sign + distension of gall bladder	48	58.53
Gall bladder wall thickness >3 mm + positive sonographic Murphy sign	15	18.29
Gall stone + gall bladder wall thickness >3 mm + positive sonographic Murphy sign	9	10.98
Gall bladder wall thickness >3 mm + positive sonographic Murphy sign + distension of gall bladder + periecholelcytic fluid	2	2.44
Gall bladder wall thickness >3 mm + positive sonographic Murphy sign + periecholelcytic fluid	3	3.66
Others*	5	6.10
Total	82	100

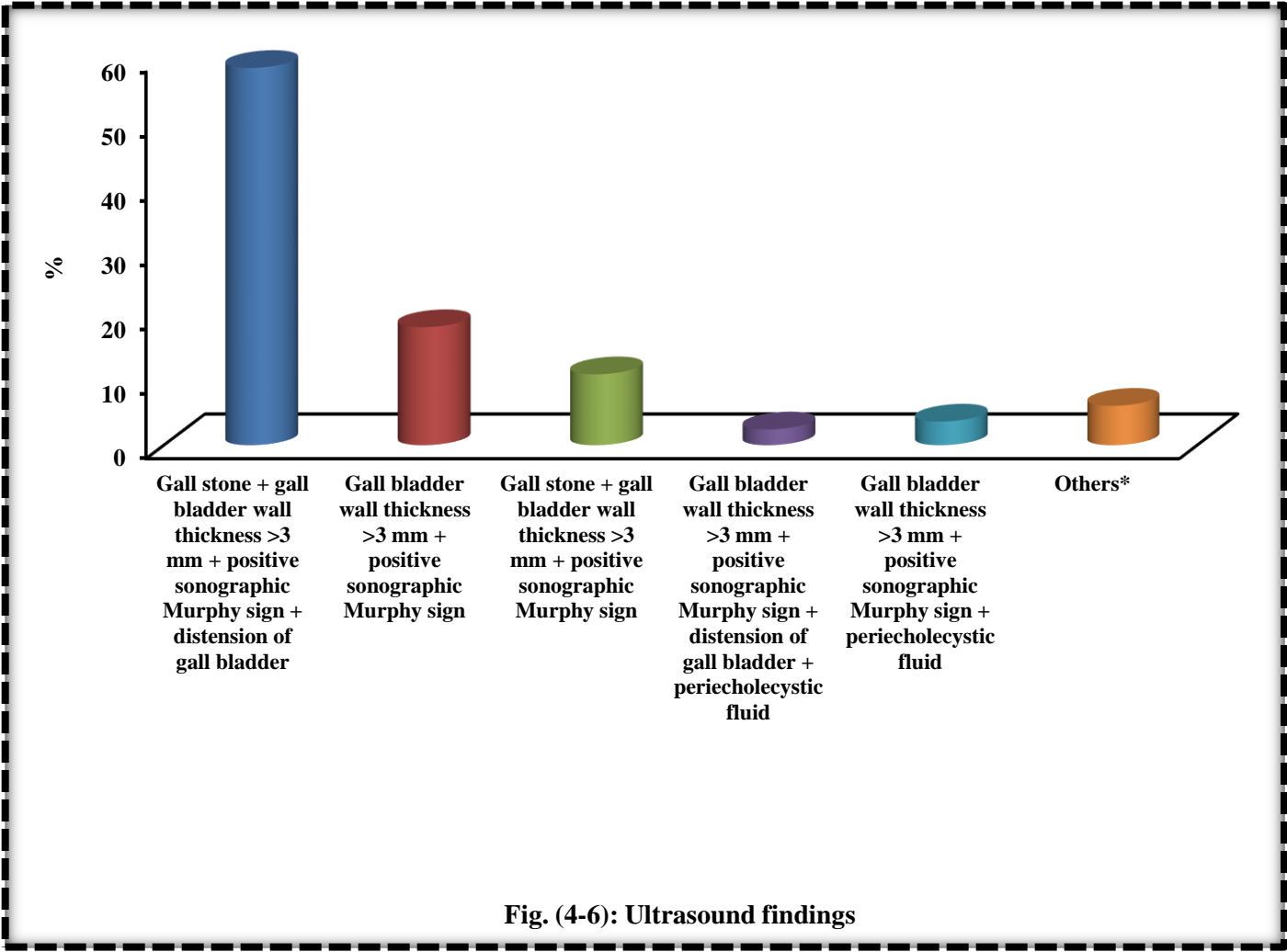


Fig. (4-6): Ultrasound findings

Table (4-8): Frequency distribution according to final diagnosis

Final diagnosis	Frequency	%
Acute calculous cholecystitis	61	74.39
Acute a calculous cholecystitis	21	25.61
Total	82	100

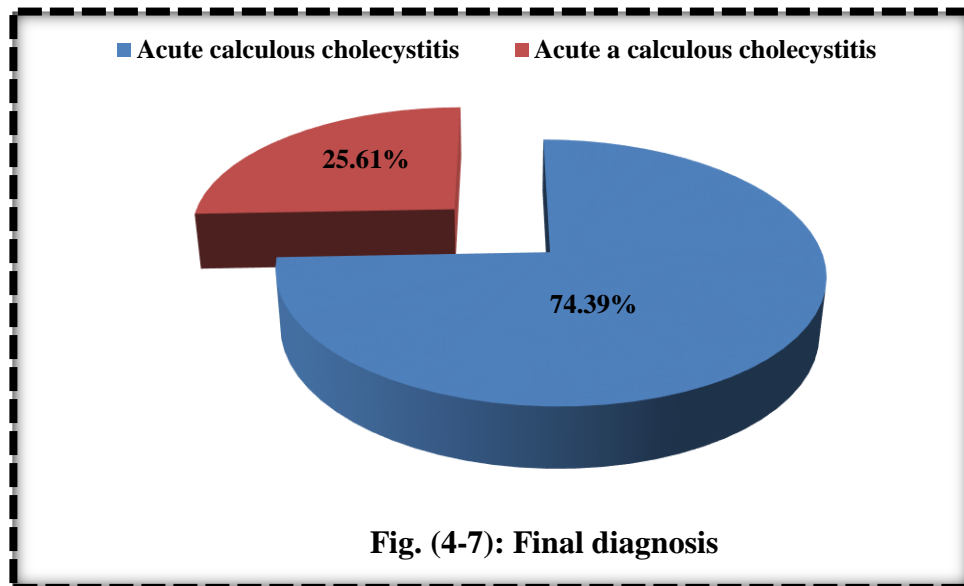
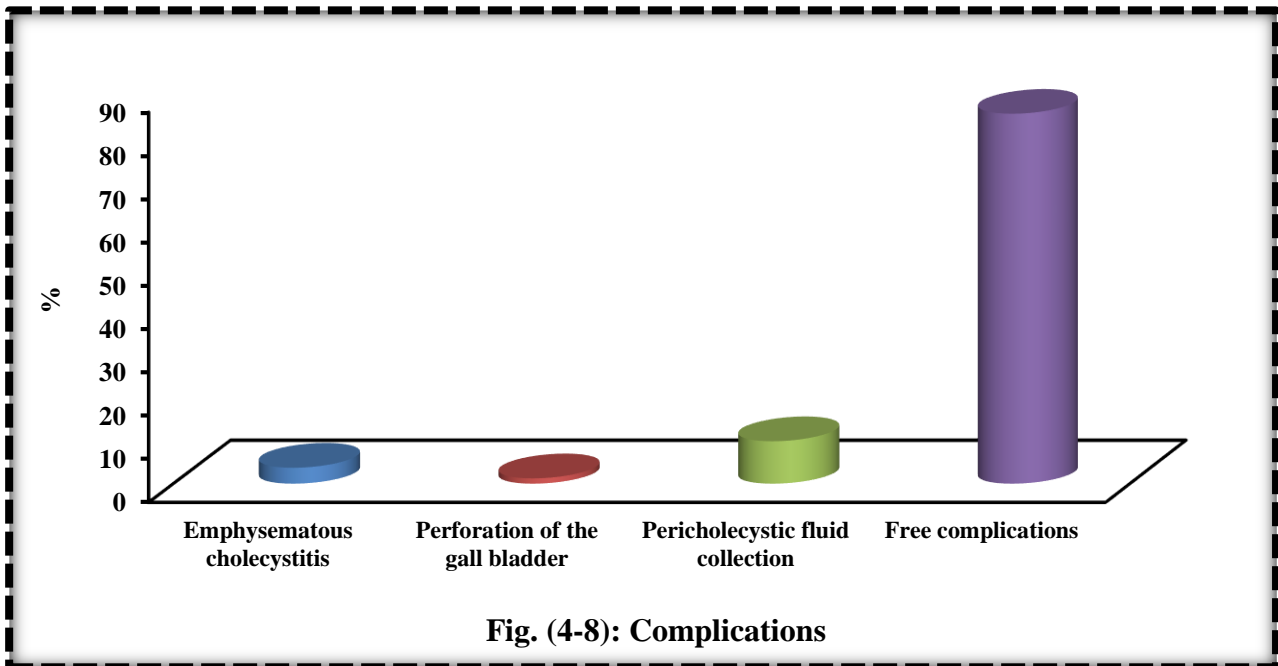


Table (4-9): Frequency distribution according to complications

Complications	Frequency	%
Emphysematous cholecystitis	3	3.66
Perforation of the gall bladder	1	1.22
Pericholecystic fluid collection	8	9.76
Free complications	70	85.36
Total	82	100



Part Two: Relationships

Table (4-10): Chi-square test of the final diagnosis with age

Age group (years)	Final diagnosis	
	Acute calculous cholecystitis (n=59)	Acute a calculous cholecystitis (n=21)
<30 (n=1)	1(1.25%)	-
30-39 (n=13)	8(10.00%)	5(6.25%)
40-49 (n=28)	21(25.61%)	7(8.54%)
50-59 (n=25)	19(23.75%)	6(7.50%)
60-69 (n=11)	9(11.25%)	2(2.50%)
≥70 (n=41)	2(2.50%)	2(2.50%)
Chi-square test	27.64	
P-value	0.039*	

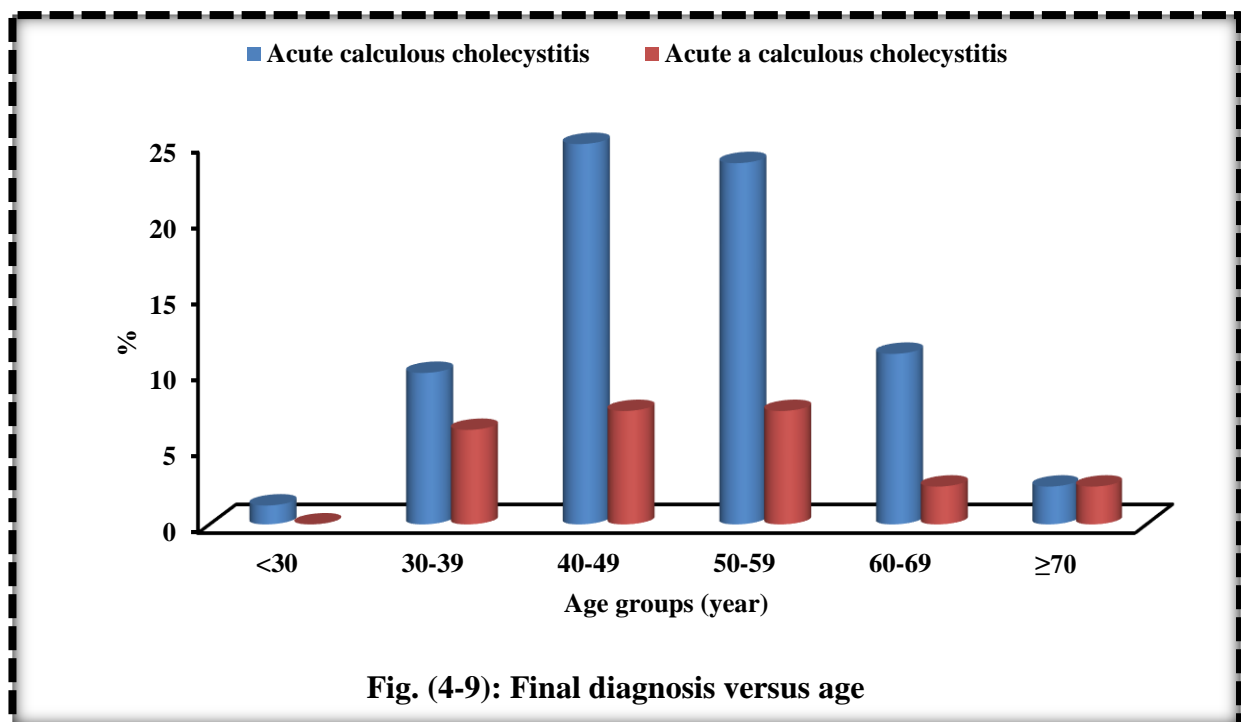


Table (4-11): Chi-square test of the final diagnosis with gender

Gender	Final diagnosis	
	Acute calculous cholecystitis (n=61)	Acute a calculous cholecystitis (n=21)
Males (n=30)	21(25.61%)	9(10.98%)
Females (n=52)	40(48.78%)	12(14.63%)
Chi-square test	18.47	
P-value	0.039*	

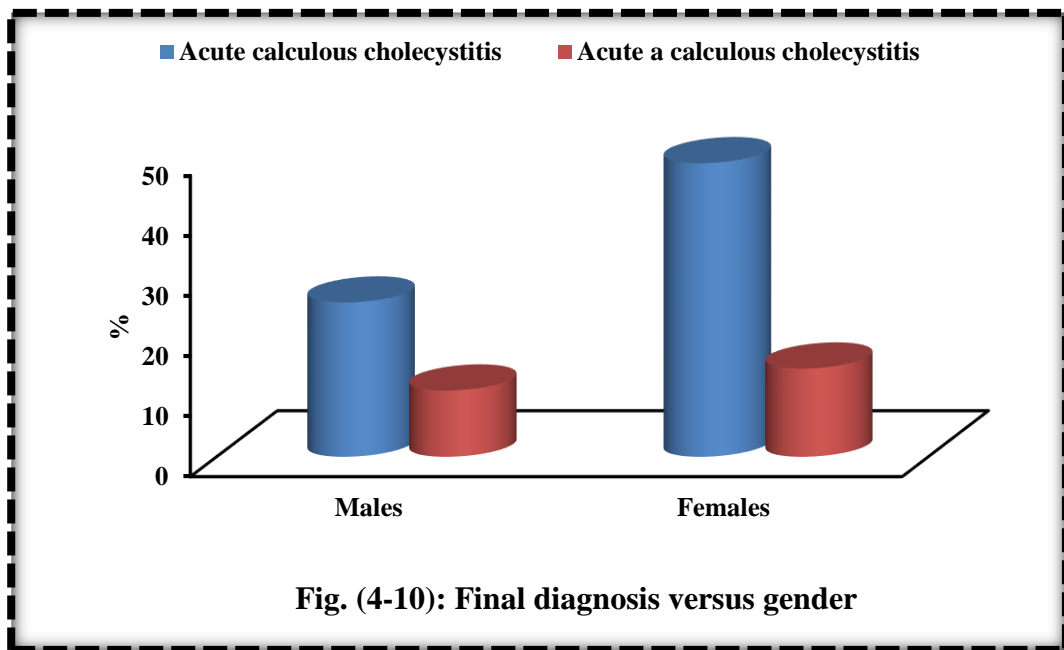


Table (4-12): Chi-square test of the final diagnosis with other pathology

Other pathology	Final diagnosis	
	Acute calculous cholecystitis (n=8)	Acute a calculous cholecystitis (n=2)
Diabetic (n=5)	4(40%)	1(10%)
Jundace (n=3)	3(30%)	-
Ascitis + PV dilation (n=1)	-	1(10%)
Jundace + PHT + ascitis + plural effusion (n=1)	1(10%)	-
Chi-square test	50.19	
P-value	0.0001**	

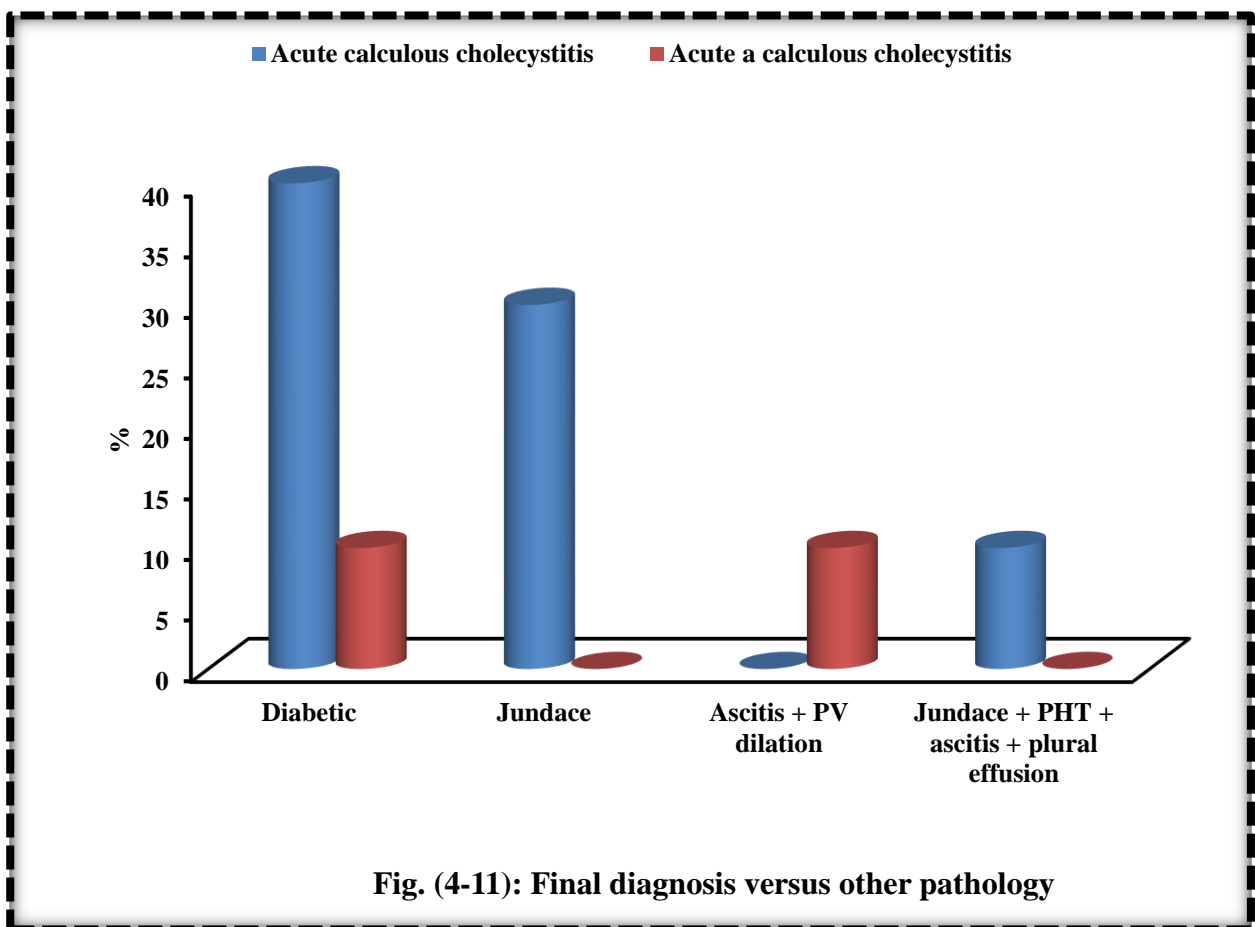


Table (4-13): Chi-square test of the final diagnosis with obesity

Obesity	Final diagnosis	
	Acute calculous cholecystitis (n=10)	Acute a calculous cholecystitis (n=3)
Obese (n=13)	10(76.92%)	3(23.08%)
Chi-square test	26.85	
P-value	0.0068**	

Table (4-14): Chi-square test of the complications with obesity

Obesity	Obesity	
	Obese	Not obese
Emphysematous cholecystitis	2(33.33%)	-
Perforation of the gall bladder	1(16.67%)	-
Pericholecystic fluid collection	3(50.00%)	-
Chi-square test	58.64	
P-value	0.0001**	

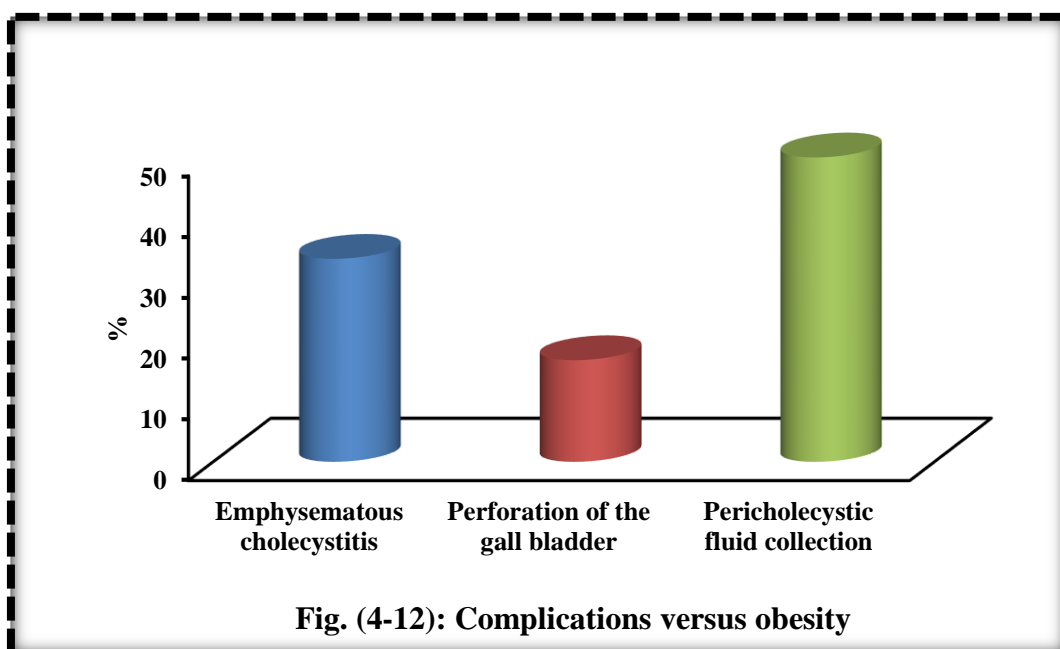
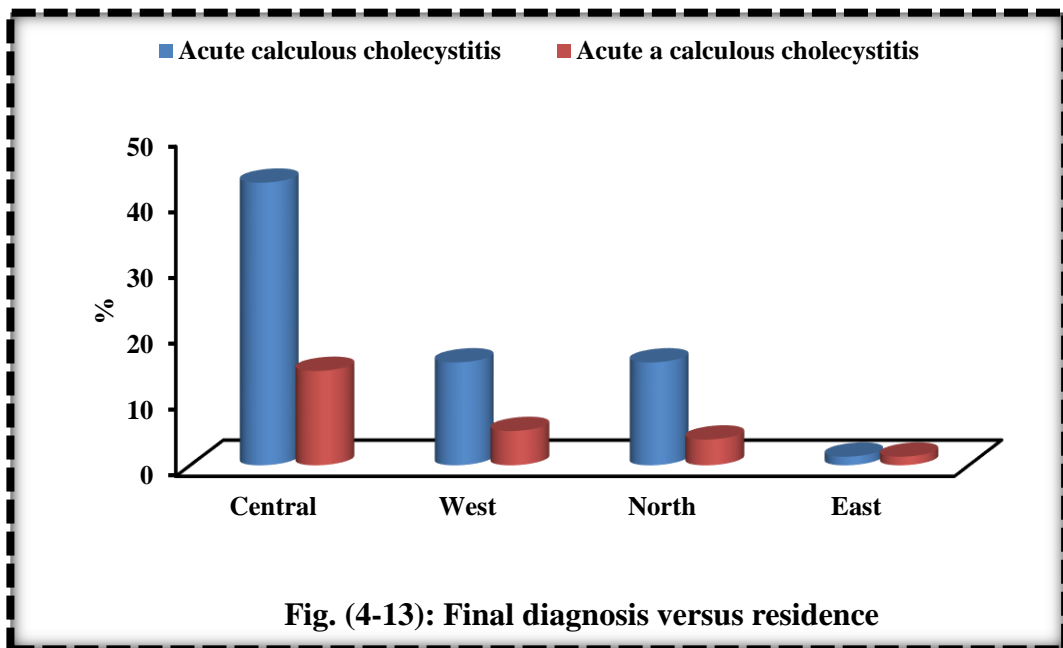


Table (4-15): Chi-square test between final diagnosis and residence

Residence	Final diagnosis	
	Acute calculous cholecystitis (n=10)	Acute a calculous cholecystitis (n=3)
Central Sudan (n=49)	36(42.86%)	13(14.29%)
Western Sudan (n=16)	12(15.58%)	4(5.19%)
Northern Sudan (n=15)	12(15.58%)	3(3.90%)
Eastern Sudan (n=2)	1(1.30%)	1(1.30%)
Chi-square test	28.53	
P-value	0.025*	



Chapter Five

Discussion, Conclusion & Recommendations

Chapter Five

Discussion, conclusion and recommendations

5.1 Discussion:

As shown in Table (4-1) and Fig. (4-1), 30 out of 82 (36.59%) were males and the rest 52 out of 82 (63.41%) were females. This result agrees with study done by MawiaGamerelden et.al and Hamish Howong et.al they found that female more affected by acute cholecystitis.)

Age of patients was illustrated in Table (4-3) and Fig. (4-2). 1 out of 82 (1.22%) below 30 years, 13 out of 82 (15.85%) between 30-39 years, 28 out of 82 (31.71%) between 40-49 years, 25 out of 82 (32.93%) between 50-59 years, 11 out of 82 (13.41%) between 60-69 years and 4 out of 82 (4.88%) were 70 years or above. This result agrees with study done by Mawia Gamerelden et.al they found that acute cholecystitis incidence is higher within age of 41.50.

The ultrasound findings shows that ultrasonography is excellent and more sensitive modality for the diagnosis of gall stone and more sensitive in diagnosis of gallbladder wall thickening, positive sonographic murphy sign, distension of gall bladder as shown in Table (4-7) and Fig. (4-6). This result agrees with Goleaadela et.al, Krishna Kumar and Hamish Howong et.al.

Final diagnosis of patients under study was shown in Table (4-8) and Fig. (4-7). the majority, 61 out of 82 (74.39%) were acute calculous cholecystitis and the rest 21 out of 82 (25.61%) were acute a calculous cholecystitis.

According to complications was illustrated in Table (4-9) and Fig. (4-8). 3 out of 82 (3.66%) were emphysematous cholecystitis, 1 out of 82 (1.22%) were perforation of the gall bladder, 8 out of 82 (9.76%) were pericholecystic fluid collection, while the majority 70 out of 82 (82.36%) had no complications.

As shown in Table (4-10) and Fig. (4-9), Chi-square test shows significant difference ($P=0.039$) for the relationship between age and final diagnosis. This result is agrees with Goleaadela et.al, Krishna Kumar and Hamish Howong et.al

that shows the high percentage of patients with acute cholecystitis have cholelithiasis (acute calculous cholecystitis).

Relationship between final diagnoses with gender was shown in Table (4-11) and Fig. (4-10), Chi-square test shows significant difference ($P=0.039$) for the relationship between gender and final diagnosis.

The study findings also show that ultrasound can diagnose other pathology with acute cholecystitis, e.g. Jaundice, ascites, plural effusion, portal hypertension (dilated portal vein + splenomegaly) as demonstrated in table (4-12) and fig (4-11).

The study also reflects that complications of acute cholecystitis mainly on obese patients as shown in table (4-14) and fig (4-12) shows significant difference (p-value 0.0001) for the relationship between complications of acute cholecystitis and obesity this agrees with study done by MawiaGamerelden et.al. The study shows the incidence of acute cholecystitis was higher in patients from the central of Sudan than other as shown in table (4-15) and fig (4-13) shows significant difference (p-value = 0.025). This result agrees with study done by MawiaGamerelden et.al that Khartoum population suffer from acute cholecystitis

5.2 conclusion:

The study shows that the acute calculus cholecystitis is higher than acute a calculus. The incidence of acute cholecystitis in the studied group is higher in females than males. The study also reflects that complications of acute cholecystitis mainly on obese patients.

The incidence of acute cholecystitis is higher in patients from central Sudan.

Ultrasound is a method of high accuracy for the diagnoses of cholelithiasis. It has a great value in increasing accuracy in the diagnoses of acute cholecystitis and improves the clinical outcome.

5.3 Recommendations:

- Easy and immediate ultrasound technique should be used to diagnose acute cholecystitis.
- Adequate and good sonographic technique with more experience should be applied because ultrasound is operator dependent.
- Modern diagnostic instruments should be used to increase the accuracy outcome in diagnoses of acute cholecystitis.
- C-T scan should be done in cases with complicated acute cholecystitis eg. Gangrenous cholecystitis, emphysematous, perforated cholecystitis .
- The service of the ultrasound department in hospitals must be available 24 hours because acute cholecystitis is an urgent case.
- Further studies with large sample volume is recommended.

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Appendices

Appendix I: ultrasound images from the sample of the study:



Female with age 53 years

Image ⁽¹⁾: Longitudinal transabdominal scan shows gall stone, wall thickening and distension of the gallbladder.



Male with age 42

Image (2): Longitudinal transabdominal scan shows gall stone, at the neck of the gallbladder and wall thickening.



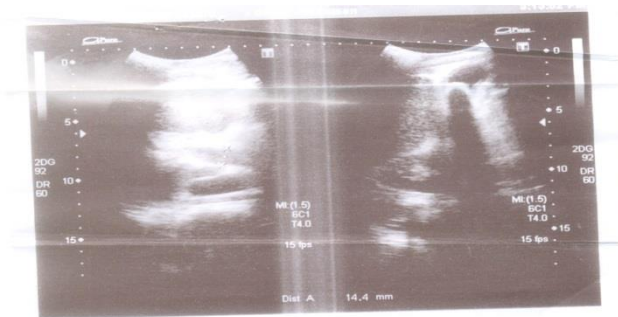
Obese Female with age 50

Image (3): Longitudinal transabdominal scan shows distension of the gallbladder, wall thickening, and small gallstones.



Female with age 41 years

Image (4): Transverse transabdominal scan shows gallstone, wall thickening



Male with age 45 years

Image (5): Transabdominal scan shows gallstone wall thickening, dilation of portal vein



Female with age 40 years

Image (6): Transverse transabdominal scan shows gallstone, distension of gallbladder, wall thickening



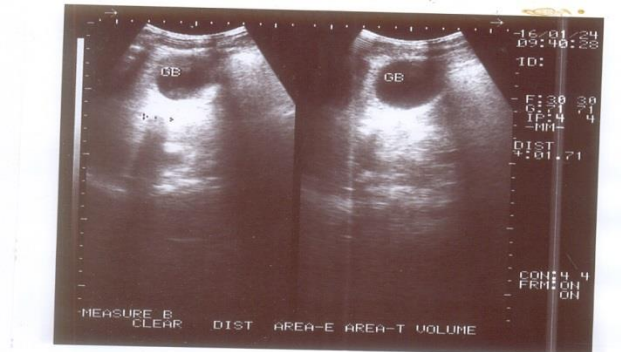
Male with age 37 years

Image (7): Longitudinal transabdominal scan shows stone at the neck of the gall bladder, wall thickening



Female with age 43 years

Image (8): Longitudinal transabdominal scan shows gall stone, wall thickening.



Male with age 44 years

Image (9): Transverse transabdominal scan shows gall stone, wall thickening, distension in gallbladder.



Female with age 60 years

Image (10): Longitudinal transabdominal scan shows wall thickening, distension in gallbladder, periecholel cystic fluid



Female with age 70 years

Image (11): Transverse and longitudinal transabdominal scan shows wall thickening, distension in gallbladder, intraluminal gas.



Female with age 43 years

Image (12): Transverse and longitudinal transabdominal scan shows stone at the neck of gallbladder, wall thickening, distension of gallbladder.

Appendix II:

Data collection sheet

Patient Name:

Patient gender: Male:

Female: pregnant: not pregnant:

Patient age:

Patient Residence: North Central East West

Other Pathology: diabetic jaund ascites

PHT

Ultrasound Findings:

Ultrasound findings of acute calculous cholecystitis:

- Gall stone.
- Gall bladder wall thickness > 3 mm.
- Positive sonographic Murphy sign.
- Distension of gall baldder.

Ultrasound findings of acute a calculous cholecystitis:

- Gall bladder wall thickness > 3 mm.
- Positive sonographic Murphy sign.
- Pericholecystic fluid.
- Intraluminal gas or membrane.

Final diagnose:

- Acute calculous cholecystitis
- Acute a calculous cholecystitis
- Emphysematous cholecystitis
- Perforation of the gallbladder
- Pericholecystic fluid collection
-