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RESEARCH ARTICLE

A STUDY OF OCULAR MANIFESTATIONS IN THERMAL AND ELECTRICAL BURNS.

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Abstract

A clinical Study including 100 patients with thermal and electrical burns admitted in the burns ward, Government General Hospital, Kurnool from January 2017 to December 2017 was done. A detailed ocular examination and posterior segment evaluation, wherever feasible, was done. Follow up for two months to find out sequelae and their management was done.

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Introduction:-

Thermal and electrical burns involving face commonly have ocular manifestations. More than 2/3rd of facial burns involve eye or periocular area and 7.5 %-25% of all patients treated for burns have ocular involvement. Reflex blinking of eyelids in response to heat and smoke protect the cornea and eyelid margins.

Frequent ocular injuries seen as a result of facial burns include lid burns, corneal burns, foreign bodies, abrasions, perforations, contractures leading to ectropion. Chronic sequelae following thermal and electrical burns include ectropion, dry eyes, corneal opacities, cataract, and posterior segment changes leading to the low visual outcome.

The purpose of this study is to determine various ocular manifestations immediately after burns and their sequelae after two months follow up of thermal and electrical burns involving the face.

Material and Methods:-

A total of 100 patients of all age groups admitted in a burns ward, Government General Hospital, Kurnool with thermal and electrical burns involving face during the period of January 2017 to December 2017 were included in this study.

Various ocular findings were noted in all patients after detailed examination and fundus examination, OCT did in needed patients (electrical burns) who came for follow up and appropriately treated for sequelae.

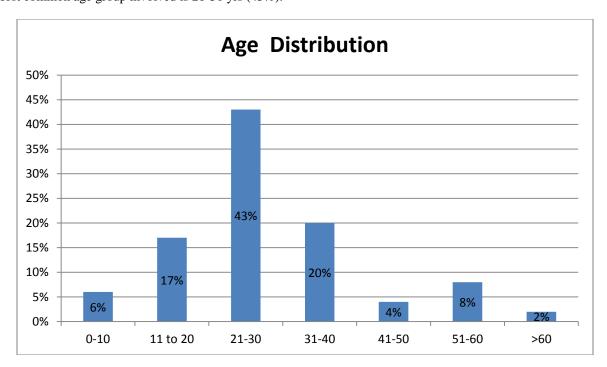
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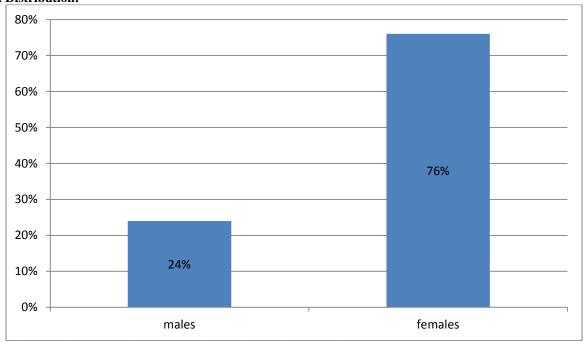
Observations:

Age Distribution:

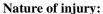
Of 100 patients in this study, 6% are below 10 years, 17% are 11 - 20 yrs, 43% are 21 - 30 yrs, 20% in 31- 40 yrs, 4% are between 41- 50 yrs, 8% are between 51-60 yrs and 2% are above 60 yrs. Most common age group involved is 21-30 yrs (43%).

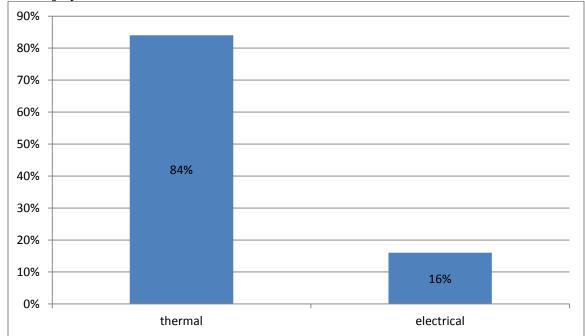


Sex Distribution:



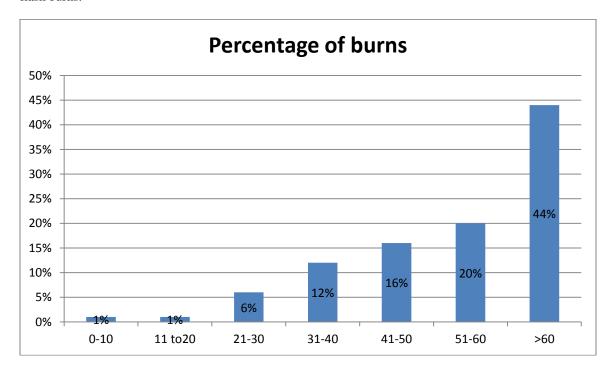
Of 100 patients, 24 patients were males, and 76 patients were females.





Of 100 patients, 84 patients had thermal burns, and 16% had electrical burns.

And in thermal burns, 70 patients had burns due to petroleum products like kerosene and petrol, 8 had burns due to hot oil, and 6 with fall of hot water and steam. Of 16% of electrical injuries, 14% had contact burns, and 2% had flash burns.



Among 100 patients 44 had > 60% of burns with involvement of face, 20 patients had 51-60% burns, 16 had 41-50% burns, 12 had 31-40% burns, 6 had 20-30% burns and 10-20% burns seen in only 1% of patients.

Ocular Findings: Acute manifestations

Eyebrows - 84% - Loss of eye brows

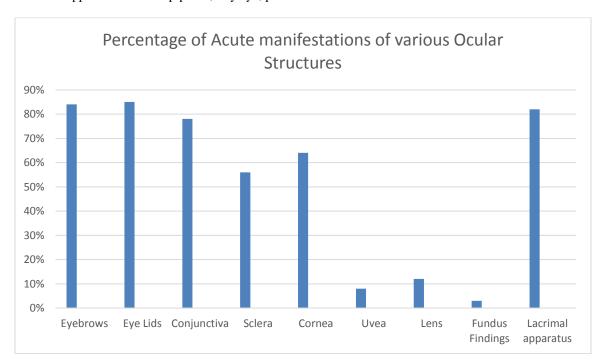
Eye lids - 85% - partial and total thickness burns Conjunctiva - 78% - Hyperaemia and chemosis. Sclera - 56% - Ischaemia, necrosis.

Cornea - 64% Edema, ulcers.

Uvea - 8 % Iritis Lens - 12% Cataract.

Fundus findings-3% - Retinaledema, Macular edema.

Lacrimal apparatus- 82% - Epiphora, Dry eye, punctual stenosis.



Patients with>50% of burns had death among 100 patients, and only 25 patients came for follow up, and detailed ocular examination was conducted, the following findings were made.

Deformities: Chronic (sequelae)

Eye brow - 82% - Loss of eye brows

Eye lids -85% - Ectropion, canthal webbing, Trichiasis, Distichiasis, Lagophthalmos.

Conjunctiva - 82% Xerosis, Symblepharon. Cornea - 70% - Xerosis, Corneal opacity.

Lens - 2% - Cataract. Fundus -3% - Macular hole.

Lacrimal apparatus - 82% - Misdirected punctum, Stenosis, Scarring.

Conclusion:-

Current study showed that 21-30 yrs age group commonly involved in ocular burns, females are commonly affected (76%), thermal burns (84%) are common, 44% of patients had > 60% of burns and eyelids are commonly involved (85%) followed by eye brows (84%), Lacrimal apparatus and conjunctiva (78%). Common sequelae are ectropion (85%), dry eyes (80%) and corneal opacity (70%) leading to corneal blindness.

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