



Clinical and Radiological Profile of Intra-cerebral Hemorrhage: An Observational Study

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Abstract: Background: Intra-cerebral hemorrhage (ICH) is focal bleeding from a brain blood vessel. It contributes to about 10-15% of the yearly global stroke count, roughly 2 million cases, with an occurrence rate of 10-30 per 100,000 individuals. Patient outcomes depend on clinical presentation and radiological criteria. **Aim of the study:** This study aimed to assess the clinical and radiological profile of intra-cerebral hemorrhage. **Methods:** This was a cross-sectional study that was conducted in the Radiology and Imaging Department, Sheikh Sayera Khatun Medical College Hospital, Bangladesh from January 2018 to December 2018. In total 320 diagnosed intra-cerebral hemorrhage (ICH) patients, by computed tomography scan, were enrolled in this study as the study subjects. A purposive sampling technique was used in sample selection. All data were processed, analyzed and disseminated by using MS Office. **Results:** Participants showed a male-female ratio of 2:1, with 38% aged 61-70. Radiologically, 46% had capsuloganglionic involvement, 22% thalamus, 8% thalamoganglionic, 8% frontal. Common symptoms: altered sensorium (40%), headache (34%), seizures (28%). Leading cause: hypertension (74%). Glasgow Coma Scale: 9-12 for 57%, 13-15 for 34%, <9 for 9%. **Conclusion:** Aged males are mainly prone to intra-cerebral hemorrhage. The capsuloganglionic region and thalamus are the most vulnerable parts for hemorrhage. Altered sensorium, headache and seizures are the most common symptoms in such cases.

Keywords: Danazol, Evening Primrose Oil, Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Breast Pain.

Article at a glance:

Study Purpose: The purpose of this study was to assess the clinical and radiological profile of intra-cerebral hemorrhage.

Key findings: Intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH) often presents with sudden neurological deficits, including weakness and altered consciousness.

Newer findings: New treatment protocols, including minimally invasive surgeries and neuroprotective agents, are being studied to improve outcomes.

Abbreviations: ICH: intra-cerebral hemorrhage, BP: Blood Pressure.

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INTRODUCTION

The incidence of intra-cerebral hemorrhage (ICH) varies from 11 to 23 cases per 100,000 per year and it accounts for only 10 to 15% of all strokes. It is the most fatal stroke subtype with a mortality up to 40%¹. Intra-cerebral hemorrhage is more common than subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) and is much more likely to result in death or the majority disability than

cerebral infarction or SAH². More than 50% of the patients die and nearly half of the survivors are left in a severely disabled state, with significant social, personal, and health service costs³. Anatomically, intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH) can be categorized as parenchymatous, subarachnoid, epidural, subdural, supra and infratentorial hemorrhages. Etiologically, it can be categorized as primary or spontaneous

hemorrhages and secondary hemorrhages. Primary hemorrhages, mainly caused by arterial hypertensive diseases, are spontaneous. Secondary hemorrhages result from traumatic, pharmacological, or tumorous causes⁴.

The precise role of surgical intervention in ICH management remains debatable; however, indications for surgical intervention are uncertain in clinical practice³. These depend on the presenting Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS), size, and location of the ICH, which are believed to impact outcomes after surgical removal of the ICH^{5,6}. Hospital admissions for ICH have risen by 18% over the last decade, potentially due to a growing elderly population with inadequate blood pressure (BP) control and the heightened utilization of anticoagulants, thrombolytics, and antiplatelet agents. Incidence could have dropped for certain individuals due to better medical access and BP management^{7,8}. The objective of this current study was to assess the clinical and radiological profile of intra-cerebral hemorrhage.

METHODS

This was a cross-sectional observational study that was conducted in the Radiology and Imaging Department, Sheikh Sayera Khatun Medical College Hospital, Gopalganj, Bangladesh from January 2018 to December 2018. In total 320 patients who were diagnosed to have ICH, both primary and secondary, by computed tomography scan were enrolled in this study as the study subjects. Properly written consent was taken from all the participants before data collection. A purposive sampling technique was used in sample selection. The onset and severity of hemorrhage were assessed by the Glasgow coma scale⁹ and neurological deficit on admission by the NIH stroke scale. The whole intervention was conducted following the principles of human research specified in the Helsinki Declaration¹⁰ and executed in compliance with currently applicable regulations

and the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)¹¹. A predesigned questionnaire was used in data collection. All the demographic and clinical information of the participants was recorded. All data were processed, analyzed and disseminated by using MS Office.

RESULT

In this study, among the total participants, 67% were male whereas the rest 33% were female. So, the male-female ratio of the participants was 2:1. In analyzing the ages of our total participants, we found that more than one-third of the patients (38%) were from the 61-70 years age group. Besides, 16%, 13% and the other 16% were from 31-40, 41-50- and 71-80-years age group. In analyzing the symptoms among the total of our participants we observed that altered sensorium, headache, seizures and vomiting were present in 40%, 34%, 28%, and 19% of the cases which were noticeable. Besides hemiparesis (12%), focal neurological deficits (11%), nausea (10%), quadriplegia (2%) and aphasia (2%) were found in some of the cases. In analyzing the etiological findings, we observed that in the majority of the participants (74%) hypertension was found. Besides, in 14%, 7%, 3% and 2% of the cases, trauma, aneurysm, tumor and bleeding diathesis were found respectively. In analyzing the radiological findings among the total participants, we observed that the involvement of the capsulothalamic region was found in nearly half of the patients (46%); the thalamus was involved in 22% of the cases which was also noticeable. Besides those, the involvement of thalamothalamic (8%), frontal (8%), cerebellum (4%), parieto-occipital (5%), occipital (3%), pons (2%), temporal (1%) and subarachnoid (2%) regions were observed in some of the cases. In this study, as per the Glasgow coma scale, among the majority of cases (57%) the score was found 9-12. Besides scores of <9 and 13-15 were found in 9% and 34% of the cases respectively.

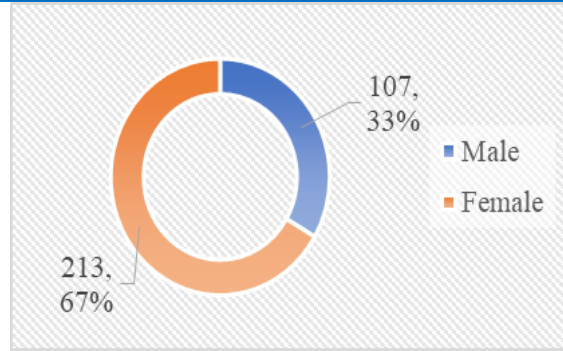


Figure 1: Distribution of participants as per gender (N=320)

Table 1: Distribution of participants as per age (N=320)

Age (in years)	n	%
31-40	20	6%
41-50	51	16%
51-60	42	13%
61-70	120	38%
71-80	51	16%
81-90	21	7%
91-100	9	3%
>100	6	2%

Table 2: Distribution of participants as per symptoms (N=320)

Symptoms	n	%
Altered sensorium	128	40%
Headache	110	34%
Seizures	91	28%
Vomiting	60	19%
Hemiparesis	37	12%
Focal neurological deficits	36	11%
Nausea	31	10%
Quadriparesis	7	2%
Aphasia	6	2%

Table 3: Distribution of participants as per etiological findings (N=320)

Variables	n	%
Hypertension	236	74%
Trauma	44	14%
Aneurysm	23	7%
Tumor	10	3%
Bleeding diathesis	7	2%

Table 4: Distribution of participants as per radiological findings (N=320)

Radiological findings	n	%
Capsuloganglionic	147	46%
Thalmus	71	22%
Thalamoganglionic	27	8%
Frontal	24	8%
Cerebellum	12	4%
Parieto-occipital	15	5%

Occipital	9	3%
Pons	6	2%
Temporal	3	1%
subarachnoid haemorrhage	6	2%

Table 5: Distribution of participants as per Glasgow coma scale (N=320)

GC scale	n	%
<9	28	9%
9-12	183	57%
13-15	109	34%
Mean \pm SD	11.17 \pm 3.66	

DISCUSSION

This study aimed to assess the clinical and radiological profile of intra-cerebral hemorrhage. In this study, among the total participants, 67% were male whereas the rest of 33% were female. So, the male-female ratio of the participants was 2:1. In another study¹² it was reported that among their 60 study participants, the mean age was 62.78 years (SD 9.06 years) and most of them were males. In analyzing the ages of our total participants, we found that more than one-third of the patients (38%) were from the 61-70 years age group. Besides, 16%, 13% and the other 16% were from 31-40, 41-50- and 71-80-years age group. This corresponds to the middle age group with a higher prevalence of risk factors for intra-cerebral hemorrhage (ICH)¹³. Some of the previous studies have also demonstrated such findings. Moreover, Sacco *et al.*¹⁴ found that age is the single most important risk factor for stroke. Among all participants, noticeable symptoms included altered sensorium (40%), headache (34%), seizures (28%), and vomiting (19%). Additionally, cases exhibited hemiparesis (12%), focal neurological deficits (11%), nausea (10%), quadriparesis (2%), and aphasia (2%). In a study¹⁵ the altered sensorium (42.5%), headache (37.5%), convulsions (30%), and vomiting (20%) were the main presenting symptoms, which were in consonance with our study. In our study upon examining the underlying causes, hypertension was the predominant factor, accounting for the majority of participants (74%).

Additionally, 14% had trauma, 7% had aneurysm, 3% had tumors and the rest 2% had bleeding diathesis. These findings were similar to the findings of another study conducted by Zidan *et al.*¹⁶ During our analysis of radiological findings

in all participants, we observed that approximately 46% of patients had involvement in the capsuloganglionic region. Notably, the thalamus was involved in 22% of cases. Moreover, we identified cases with thalamoganglionic (8%), frontal (8%), cerebellar (4%), parieto-occipital (5%), occipital (3%), pontine (2%), temporal (1%), and subarachnoid (2%) region involvement. In this study, as per the Glasgow coma scale, among the majority of cases (57%) the score was found 9-12. Besides scores of <9 and 13-15 were found in 9% and 34% of the cases respectively. The GCS and the locations of bleed were comparable with other studies done by Singh *et al.*¹⁷ All the findings of this current study may be helpful in further similar studies.

Limitation of the study:

This was a single-centered study with small-sized samples. Moreover, the study was conducted over a very short period. So, the findings of this study may not reflect the exact scenario of the whole country.

CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATION

As per the findings of this current study, we can conclude that aged males are mainly prone to intra-cerebral hemorrhage. The capsuloganglionic region and thalamus are the most vulnerable parts for hemorrhage. Altered sensorium, headache and seizures are the most common symptoms in such cases. Trauma and hypertension are very common etiology for intra-cerebral hemorrhage patients. To get more specific results, we would like to recommend conducting similar studies in several places with larger-sized samples.

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Conflict of interest: None declared.

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