

Original Research Article

## Childhood Intussusception: A 7 Years Prospective Analysis of Data in a Single Center

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Intussusception remains a common cause of bowel obstruction in children and results in significant morbidity and mortality if not promptly treated. There is a paucity of prospective studies regarding childhood intussusception in India and particularly the study area. This study describes the pattern, clinical presentations and management outcomes of childhood intussusception in our setting.

**Methods:** This is a prospective study carried out at the department of Neonatal and Pediatric surgery in SDM hospital Sattur, Dharwad, Karnataka, over a period of 7 years between July 2009 and June 2016. The study was approved by the institutional review board.

**Results:** One hundred and fifty paediatric patients aged less than 14yrs with diagnosis of intussusception were included in this study. 150 cases of intussusception accounted for 25% of the gastrointestinal obstruction in our setup. Highest number of patients were within 1 year of age (80%), male to female ratio was 2:1, the exact aetiology of intussusception could not be identified in majority of the cases. Abdominal pain (80%), vomiting (60%) and per rectal bleeding (40%) were common presentations. Only 20% of patients managed with ultrasound guided saline reduction were as 80% patients were managed surgically. Ileocolic type was commonest type of intussusception (90%). Postoperative complications were noted in 16% cases. The overall mortality rate was 2% (3 out of 150) and delayed referrals were the significant contributing factors for mortality.

**Conclusion:** Intussusception in our setting is characterized by late presentation, high index of suspicion and proper evaluation of patients is essential for an early diagnosis and timely definitive treatment, in order to decrease the morbidity and mortality associated with this disease.

**Key words:** Intussusception, Intestinal obstruction, abdominal pain.