



**RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, KARNATAKA,
BANGALORE.**

**“UTILITY OF THE HARMLESS ACUTE
PANCREATITIS SCORE IN PREDICTING THE COURSE
OF ACUTE PANCREATITIS”**

**BY
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ABSTRACT

Background and objectives: Acute pancreatitis is a frequent and potentially life threatening disease with wide spectrum of severity. Many scoring systems are available to predict the severity of acute pancreatitis like APACHE II, BISAP, RANSON, BALTHAZAR and others, but they are either insufficiently sensitive, too complicated, too expensive, time consuming or require specialized laboratory and imaging facilities. This study was designed to evaluate the effectiveness of HAPS scoring system to triage patients with mild acute pancreatitis in the emergency department so as to manage patients better and more efficiently.

Methods: This is a prospective, non-interventional, observational study over a period of 1 year conducted in SDM MEDICAL COLLEGE, Dharwad. 60 patients were included in the study who were diagnosed with Acute Pancreatitis. All patients were scored with HAPS Score on admission and followed up till discharge. Effectiveness of the scoring system was assessed by the duration of hospital stay and duration of ICU stay.

Results: The HAPS score was found to be statistically significant in this study in diagnosing non severe course of acute pancreatitis hence helping us assort resources accordingly. Majority of patients affected with acute pancreatitis were in the age group 25-35 years, the mean age being 39.3 years. Most of the patients suffering from acute pancreatitis were males according to this study. The male to female ratio was found to be 3.34:1. Rise in laboratory parameters like total bilirubin and LDH were found to be statistically significant in acute pancreatitis. According to HAPS score, 20 out of 60 patients with severe acute pancreatitis were managed in ICU whereas 9 patients with HAPS score 0 landed in ICU. When HAPS score was individually compared with packed cell volume, creatinine and presence of guarding/ rigidity, the results were significant statistically.

Interpretation and Conclusion: Harmless Acute Pancreatitis Score is a very useful tool to stratify patients into non severe and severe acute pancreatitis on admission, which has been a major drawback of all the other scoring systems of the past. It also uses just three parameters as compared to the other scores which are much more complicated.