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**Original article:**

**Comparison of USG guided needle aspiration VS tube drainage in management of liver abscesses**

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**Abstract**

**Background:** Liver abscesses are a common cause of morbidity and mortality in tropical countries including India. They are mainly divided intopyogenic and amoebic types based on causative organism. Treatment for liver abscesses has conventionally been use of antibiotics, followed by surgical drainage in refractory cases. In last decade the used of USG guided needle aspiration and catheter drainage has come forward as a viable alternative for the same.

**Aim:** To compare the effect and usefulness of needle aspiration and catheter drainage in treatment of liver abscesses.

**Materials and Methods:** Fifty- seven patients with liver abscess were treated using either needle aspiration or catheter drainage and results compared and analyzed. All patients received same group of antibiotics.

**Results:** Thirty-one patients were treated using needle aspiration and twenty-five using catheter drainage. Of these three patients who underwent needle aspiration were not adequately treated, whereas all the patients who underwent catheter drainage were successfully treated.

**Conclusion:** Catheter drainage has better success rate as compared to needle aspiration, however acceptability of needle aspiration is better among patients.

**Key Words:**Catheter drainage**,** liver abscess, needle aspiration.