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**Original article
A study of haematological parameters in neonatal septicemia
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**Abstract:**

**Introduction:** Neonatal septicemia is a leading cause of mortality and morbidity during the neonatal period. By definition, neonatal sepsis is a clinical syndrome characterized by systemic signs and symptoms of infection and accompanied by bacteremia in the first four weeks of life. Of late, various laboratory studies have been evaluated in India for early diagnosis of neonatal infection. But less number of such study are being done in this part of our country i.e. Assam. So, keeping this factor in mind the present study was undertaken with the following aims and objectives in view-

to carry out simple, easy to perform haematological tests for detection of neonatal sepsis.

**Materials and Methods :** The study was undertaken in the Department of Pathology, Assam Medical College and Hospital,Dibrugarh(Assam) for a period of one year **.** The study group consisted of 60 neonates of 0-28 days old with clinical evidences of sepsis and 60 age matched healthy controls..

**Results and Observations:** In our study among 3750 life birth babies, 60 cases of clinically suspected septicemia were observed giving an incidence of 16/1000 live births. Blood cultures were positive in 33 cases giving an incidence of proven septicemia to be 8.8/1000 live births.

**Conclusion:** Neonatal sepsis remains one of the most important causes of neonatal morbidity and mortality in our country at large and Assam in particular. Despite considerable progress in hygiene, introduction of new antimicrobial agents and advancement in all spheres of medical world, clinicians are handicapped to an extent when it comes to combating infections, especially in neonates and infants