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Review article:

A comparative study of percutaneous catheter drainage versus percutaneous needle aspiration in the treatment of liver abscess

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**Abstract:**

**Introduction:** With the current increasingly aggressive and successful approach to the treatment of appendicitis, biliary tract disease has become the most frequent cause of pyogenic liver abscess. The incidence of multiple hepatic abscesses also has increased.

**Materials and methods**: This clinical study was conducted in the Department of General Surgery at Basaveshwar Teaching and General Hospital, Gulbarga between December 2012 and September 2014.Clearance was obtained from the hospital ethical committee. During this period 40 patients diagnosed to have liver abscess who satisfied inclusion and exclusion criteria were included in this study

**Results:** It was observed that pain in the right upper quadrant of the abdomen was the most common symptom, found in 92.5% of the cases. Fever (82.5%) and anorexia(80%)were other frequently presenting symptoms. Approximately half of the patients had symptoms of nusea&vomitting. Only 12.5% of the patients gave a history of diarrhea prior to illness.

**Conclusion:** Percutaneous catheter drainage is a better modality as compared to percutaneous needle aspiration in terms of overall success rate, especially in larger abscesses. There is no statistically significant difference in terms of complications associated with PCD and PNA of liver abscess. We the authors conclude PCD as first-line treatment option but consider PNA as an alternative in small abscesses.