

**MICROBIOLOGY AND ANTIBIOTIC SENSITIVITY STUDY IN OROFACIAL SPACE
INFECTIONS USING EMLA AS AN ANAESTHETIC AGENT****Dr. Satish Patil¹, Dr. Deepak Manthale^{2*}, Dr. Syed Furqhanuddin³ and Dr. U.M. Joshi⁴**¹Professor. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, S.N. Dental College, Kalaburagi.²Department of Microbiology M.R. Medical College Kalaburagi.³Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, S.N. Dental College, Kalaburagi.⁴Professor and HOD. Dept. of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, S.N. Dental College, Kalaburagi.***Corresponding Author: Dr. Deepak Manthale**

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: EMLA (Eutectic Mixture of Local Anaesthetics) cream consists of lidocaine 2.5% and prilocaine 2.5%. It is an alternate method of providing topical anesthesia to the area being operated in the management of orofacial space infections. Microorganisms involved in these infections are identified and tested for their antibiotic susceptibility. **Patients and methods:** 50 patients with orofacial space infections under an age group of 20-50 years were included in this study. Patients with systemic diseases and immunocompromised conditions were excluded from our study. **Results:** 40 patients didn't experience any pain and 10 patients experienced mild pain during the surgical procedure. The isolated organisms in our study among aerobes were *Streptococcus viridans* and *Staphylococcus aureus* predominantly, whereas *Peptostreptococcus*, *Peptococcus* species and *Fusobacterium* were the most commonly isolated anaerobes. All the isolated microorganisms were found sensitive to amoxicillin + CV, cefixime, penicillin, gentamycin and metronidazole. **Conclusion:** EMLA cream provided an effective anesthesia in our cases and can be used as a topical anaesthetic of choice in the management of orofacial space infections requiring surgical incision and drainage. All the isolated microorganisms were found sensitive to amoxicillin + CV, cefixime, penicillin, gentamycin and metronidazole.

KEYWORDS: EMLA; orofacial infection, microorganism, antibiotics.**INTRODUCTION**

Space infections are one of the most common infections in the orofacial region which requires proper intervention. There are certain methods to treat space infections, one of such approaches is surgical incision and drainage. For incision and drainage, a proper anaesthesia is required. Many options to deliver anesthesia have developed over the last several decades. Application of topical anesthetics, may avoid the need for infiltrative local anesthesia injections. One of the most commonly used topical anaesthetics in dentistry is EMLA i.e. (Eutectic Mixture of Local Anaesthetics). EMLA cream (lidocaine 2.5% and prilocaine 2.5%) is an emulsion in which the oil phase is a eutectic mixture of lidocaine and prilocaine in a ratio of 1:1 by weight. TRISMUS is the hallmark of most of the oro-facial space infections, which makes the usage of local anesthetic regional nerve blocks limited. Also, the local infiltration of anesthetic solution is ineffective, due to the acidic *ph* of the surrounding tissues. Risk of aspiration is associated with sedation techniques, which in turn has fatal consequences. Of all the fascial space infections in the head and neck, Ludwig's angina is the most feared and fatal, which needs prompt surgical intervention to prevent grave

consequences. One of the major speculations is regarding the method of anesthesia to be employed prior to the surgical decompression. General anesthesia with blind endotracheal intubation might lead to inadvertent rupture of retropharyngeal abscesses, further compromising these airways. EMLA in such situations is an alternate and safe method of providing topical anesthesia to the area to be drained.

Maxillofacial infections are considered to be mixed infections as both aerobic and anaerobic microorganisms are present. It is important to periodically obtain culture and susceptibility data to monitor possible changes in the types and antibiotic resistance of microorganisms responsible for odontogenic infections. Successful treatment of abscesses usually requires incision and drainage and the selection of a suitable antibiotic. The proper selection often depends on the isolation and determination of the antibiotic susceptibility of the microorganism.

This study is designed to aid in the accurate management of oro-facial space infections using EMLA under occlusive adhesive dressing in providing anesthesia for

incision and drainage for various facial space infections and by identifying the aerobic and anaerobic organisms involved in these infections and by studying their antibiotic sensitivity,

PATIENTS AND METHODS

A total of 50 patients who visited the department of oral and maxillofacial surgery at our institution were included in the study.

Inclusion criteria

- Patients having facial space infection
- Aged between 20years to 50 years
- Patients giving informed consent for the surgical procedure.

Exclusion criteria

- Patients suffering from long standing systemic diseases or infections and Immuno suppressed conditions.
- Patients with known sensitivity to amide type local anesthetics or any other component of the product.
- Patient not willing to give informed consent

Procedure

50 Patients were included in this study. The orofacial infections were evaluated clinically with radiographic and microbiologic aids. Pus sample collection from the abscesses was done by aspiration method using a sterile 18-gauge needle and a 5-mL disposable syringe. The aspirated sample was immediately inoculated in the transport medium after removing excess air. The specimen was sent to microbiological laboratory within 2 hours of collection.

Clinical parameters

1. Routine blood investigation
2. Physician fitness before surgery
3. EMLA patch
4. Culture inoculation plates

Radiographic parameters

1. Orthopantomogram (OPG)
2. Intraoral periapical radiograph (IOPAR)

RESULTS

- In total of 50 patients included, 32 males and 18 females patients were present.
- The age group mostly affected was in the 3rd decade of life.
- Out of 50 patients, 40 patients didn't experience any pain, and 10 patients experienced mild pain during the surgical procedure.
- The isolated organisms in our study among aerobes were *Streptococcus viridans* 21 (42%), *Staphylococcus aureus* 15 (30%), *Neisseria* 4 (8%) and *Enterococcus* 10 (20%) whereas *Peptostreptococcus* 16 (32%), *Peptococcus* species 12 (24%) and *Fusobacterium* 5 (10%) were the most commonly isolated anaerobes. No growth of

anaerobic microbes was seen in 17 (34%) of the isolates

- Bacterial isolates obtained were subjected to antibiotic sensitivity test by Kirby-Bauer disc diffusion method.
- All the isolated microorganisms were found sensitive to amoxicillin (72%), amoxicillin + CV (86%), cefixime (75%), penicillin (56%), gentamycin (80%) and metronidazole (78%).

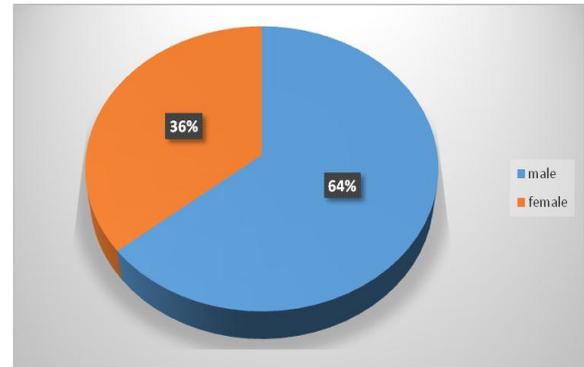


FIG1: DISTRIBUTION SHOWING CASES GENDER WISE

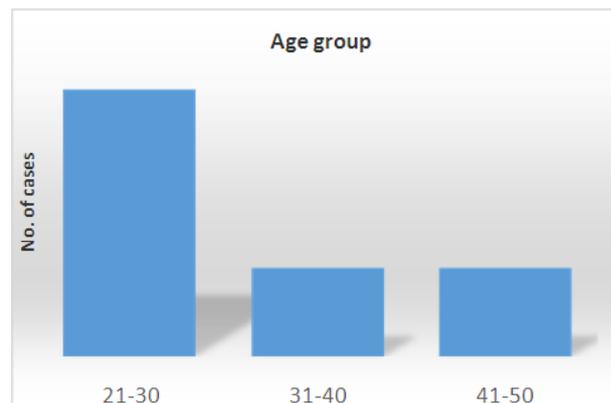


FIG2: DISTRIBUTION SHOWING CASES AGE WISE

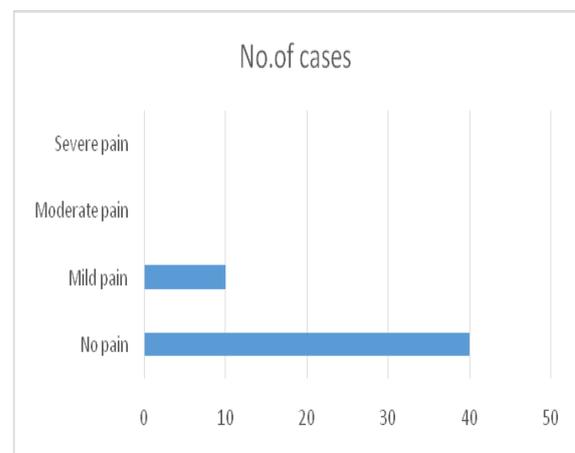


FIG3: DISTRIBUTION SHOWING CASES BASED ON PAIN THRESHOLD

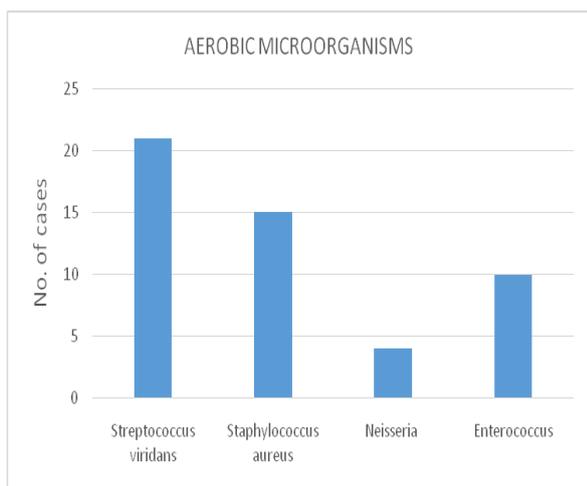


FIG4: DISTRIBUTION ACCORDING TO ISOLATED ORGANISM

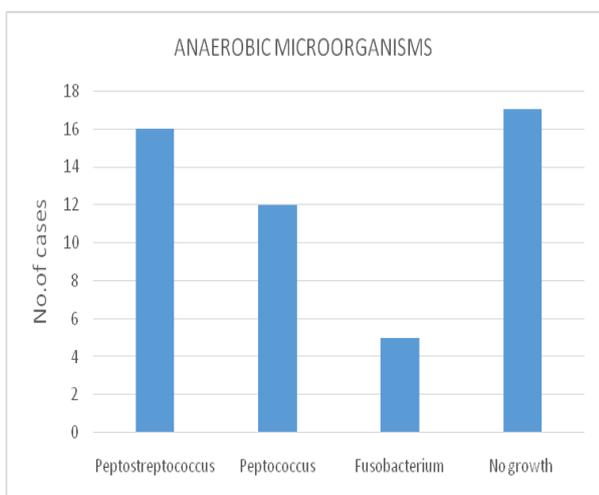


FIG5: DISTRIBUTION ACCORDING TO THE ANTIBIOTIC SENSITIVITY

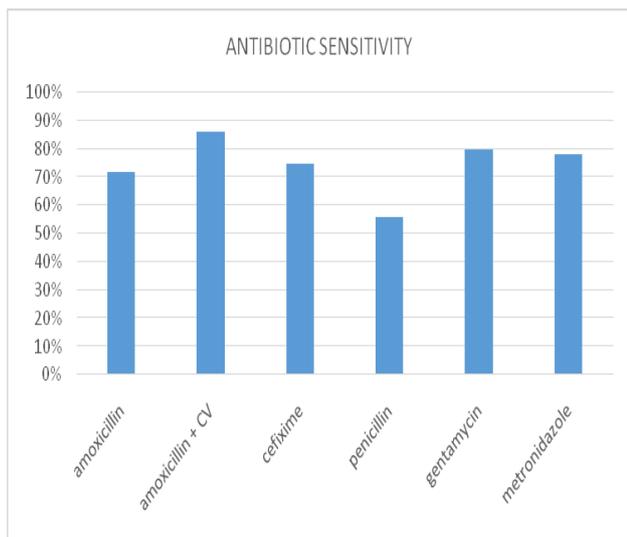


FIG6: COMPARISON OF ANTIBIOTIC SENSITIVITY BETWEEN DIFFERENT ANTIBIOTICS.

DISCUSSION

The advent of topical local anesthetic formulations was a significant innovation for optimizing analgesia for various surgical procedures. EMLA was the first successful eutectic formulation for topical use. We have evaluated the effectiveness of EMLA under occlusive dressing in providing anesthesia for I & D for various fascial space infections and found it to be 100% effective in 60% of cases and 80% effective in 40% of cases. Our finding is consistent with Anthony Eidelman^[5] who found that the majority of trials demonstrated equivalent or superior analgesic efficacy for topical formulations compared with conventional lidocaine infiltration. Our findings confirm and extend those of Thune et al,^[4] who found that the cream occluded with the Tegaderm dressing and applied 60 to 195 minutes before surgery provided adequate analgesia for surgical procedure. Wilber Huang et al^[1] stated that EMLA is applied to the skin under occlusive dressing which facilitate absorption, which was consistent with our study. He recommended that the application time of EMLA is minimum of 1 hour and maximum of 3 hours. In contrast, Jones et al^[3] observed that application 60 minutes before surgery did not give adequate anesthesia. The depth of anesthesia is highly correlated with the duration of application 3.0 mm – 60 minutes, 5.0 mm – 120 minutes. EMLA has a biphasic action on cutaneous blood vessels, with a vasoconstrictive effect that is maximal after 1.5 hours, followed by vasodilatation 2 to 3 hours after application. The duration of anesthetic effect is also affected by regional blood flow. High regional blood flow of the tissue of the face will increase the clearance of EMLA. Aditya K. Gupta et al^[2] stated that skin integrity, race, skin thickness, the location and depth of lesion, and the local vascular supply may influence the effectiveness of the cream. J. Lander et al^[11] suggested that the efficacy of the drug varied by type of the procedure, Duration of drug application and anxiety. Wilber Huang et al^[1] stated that the maximum recommended dose and application area is based on Patient’s age, Body weight, Intact skin, Normal renal and hepatic function. Tomaz F suggested that the only side effect reported till date have been local reactions such as paleness, redness and edema. However, there was no side effects seen in our study. In the present study, we examined 50 patients and found that 32 (64%) males and 18 (36%) females had orofacial space infections, which were similar to the findings of Zamiri B et al^[7]. We observed that the frequency of infections was high in 3rd decade of life which coincided with study done by Ishfaq et al.^[6]

The isolated organisms in our study among aerobes were Streptococcus viridans 21 (42%), Staphylococcus aureus 15 (30%), Neisseria 4 (8%) and Enterococcus 10 (20%) whereas Peptostreptococcus 16 (32%), Peptococcus species 12 (24%) and Fusobacterium 5 (10%) were the most commonly isolated anaerobes. No growth of anaerobic microbes was seen in 17 (34%) of the isolates.

The microbial findings of our study are in accordance to the studies of Poeschl *et al.*^[9] The isolated microbes were found to be most sensitive to Amoxicillin + CV, Gentamycin and Metronidazole. This study was supported by Farmahan *et al.*^[10] and Kulkarni *et al.*^[8]

CONCLUSION

Needle puncture and infiltrational anesthesia is generally required for minor cutaneous surgical procedures and may be associated with anxiety, fear, discomfort and pain. The use of topical anesthetics such as eutectic lidocaine/prilocaine 5% cream may provide an alternative and effective means of delivering anesthesia. We found no new bacterial strains in the samples tested. Bacteria causing odontogenic space infections remains same even today and Amoxicillin + CV combined with metronidazole yields satisfactory results.

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