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Journal of Hospital Pharmacy
An Official Publication of Bureau for Health & Education Status Upliftment
(Constitutionally Entitled As Health-Education, Bureau)

JOHP

A Study of Red Cell Distribution Width in Patients of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease with Secondary Erythrocytosis

Dr. Rohit Jagar[1], Dr. Shubendhu Dutt Kharedia[2], Dr. Ankita Singh[3]

[1]Resident Doctor, Department of General Medicine, SMS Medical College, Jaipur.
[2] Resident Doctor, Department of General Medicine, SMS Medical College, Jaipur.
[3] Resident Doctor, Department of General Medicine, SMS Medical College, Jaipur.
Corresponding Author: Dr. Ankita Singh

Email Id: serviceheb@gmail.com

ABSTRACT:

Background- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a broad clinical entity that is routinely encountered both in outdoor as well as emergency departments. It is one of the leading causes of mortality worldwide with tobacco smoking being a well-known risk factor.

Objective- To study Red cell distribution width (RDW) in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients with secondary erythrocytosis and correlate RDW with the severity of the disease.

Material & Methods- A study population of 100 COPD patients with secondary erythrocytosis was taken. Demographic profiles of patients, spirometry, and RDW were done and further evaluated with the disease severity spectrum.

Results- The average age of participants in our study was 60.23 ± 2.71 years. The average value of RDW-CV is 17.27±2.67. The mean RDW-CV in GOLD 1, 2, 3, and 4 were 14.63, 15.51, 17.31, and 19.42 respectively. This difference was statistically significant (P value <0.001).

Conclusion- This study concludes that Red cell distribution width has a positive correlation with the severity of COPD.

Keywords: Chronic Obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), Red cell distribution width (RDW)- Coefficient of variation (CV), Global initiative for chronic obstructive lung disease(GOLD).

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Website:http://www.journalofhospitalpharmacy.in	Quick Response Code:
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