

Vulvovaginitis Among Female Children

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Objectives: To investigate the possible role of microorganisms in vulvovaginitis among girls in the region.

Methods: Vulval swabs were obtained from 50 virgin girls with abnormal vaginal discharge. Their ages ranged from 8 months to 15 years. They were attending the obstetrics and gynecology clinics at Basrah during 1998 and 1999. The swabs were examined by wet preparation, Gram's stained smear and bacteriological culture methods.

Results: The most common pathogenic bacteria were *S.aureus* 10% , *E.fecalis* 10%, and *E.coli* 8%. Eggs of *E.vermicularis* and trophozoites of *T.vaginalis* were recovered at a rate of 4% and 6% respectively. However, *Candida* was diagnosed at a rate of 8%. Non- specific vulvo vaginitis was exceedingly common (28%). Candidiasis was more frequent with various concurrent lower genital tract infections.

Conclusion: Microorganisms including bacterial, mycotic and parasitic should be considered in the differential diagnosis of vulvovaginitis in order to give the proper treatment.