

SUMMARY

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The incidence of primary drug resistance to standard antituberculosis drugs is increasing and forming an alarming challenge hindering tuberculosis control in Egypt.

The present work was aiming to study the incidence of primary drug resistance to first raw antituberculosis drugs in Dakahlia Governorate.

The present study was conducted on 50 newly diagnosed patients with no previous history of antituberculosis drugs. Primary cultures were done to the sputum obtained from these patients. The results showed that 48 cultures were positive while 2 cultures were negative. Sensitivity test were performed on positive cultures to 4 drugs (streptomycin), isoniazid, ethambutol, rifampicin) using absolute concentration method.

The results obtained showed that out of 48 positive cultures, 22 (45.83%) strains were fully sensitive to the 4 tested drugs, while the others 26 (54.17%) strains were resistant to one or more drugs.

Among 48 positive cultures, the primary resistance to one drug was 18 (37.5%), to two drugs 7 (14.58%), to the

three drugs one (2.08%), and no resistance was obtained to 4 drugs.

The incidence of primary drug resistance among positive cultures was 14 (29.17%) to streptomycin, 11 (22.92%) to isoniazid, 7 (17.58%) to ethambutol and 3 (6.25%) to rifampicin.