Introduction

Rubella virus causes a relatively benign , self-limiting illness (German measles) in young children which is usually accompanied by the acquisition of long - lasting immunity (Bwmovici-Ktein et al. , 1985 and Wolinsky ,1990). However , in women of child bearing age , effective immunity to rubella virus is essential in order to prevent the potentially disastrous consequences of congenital rubella virus infection (Wolinsky , 1990) ..

Rubella is a difficult disease to diagnose clinically except when the patient is seen during an epidemic (Nelson et al. 1987) .

Rubella without rash is of importance because inapparent rubella infection (with viremia) acquired during pregnancy has the same deleterious effect on the fetus as rubella with the typical rash (Younes et al. 1991) .

Rubella is a preventable disease with various national schemes for immunization practised in developed countries. The cost of primary prevention is very small compared with the expense and effort of caring for a patient with congenital rubella syndrome (Massoud et al. 1991).

Aim Of work

This work is a trial to study the immune status of girls aged between 10-14 years by detection of rubella antibodies in their sera. This may serve to establish the need for routine vaccination programme in order to prevent rubella embryopathy .