### RESULTS

Fifty newborns were enrolled this study. They were divided into 3 groups:-

- Group 1: The individual clinical data of group 1 infants shown in (table 1). This group consists of 10 male and 10 female. The gestional age ranged from 37 wks to 40 wks with a mean of 38.60 wks. The mean age was 5.05 days. Mean weight was 2.91Kg. Mean height was 49.60 cmm and Mean H.C was 35.00 cm.
- All infants had symptoms and Signs of sepsis including refusal to suck (17 cases) Hypothermia (5 cases), Jundice (2 cases) cynosis (4 cases). Sluggish moro reflex (17 cases)
- Postive blood culture for all infants. And the detected organism shown in (table 14).
- <u>Group 2:</u> (Suspected group) include 20 infant (17 male and 3 female). The gestional age ranged from 38 wk to 41 wk.
- ( Mean = 39. 80 Wk ). The individual clinical data of group 2 infants shown in ( table 2 ).
- Group 3: (Control group) include 10 infant (6 male and 4 female). The gestional age ranged from 38 to 41 wk (Mean 39.70 wks). The individual clinical data of group 3 shown in (Table 3).
- The three groups were compared as regard, age, gestional age and sex distribution shown in the ( Tables 7 and 8 ).
- As regard antental, natal, early post natal history, abnormal antenatal risk factors were found in 10 cases of Group1, 3 Cases of group 2 and no cases in group3 (Table 9). Vaginal dilvery was the mode delivery in all group 3, and 2 C.S and 18 vaginal delivery in group2, and 7. C.S and 13 vaginal delivery in group1 (Table 9).

- Comparing the three grops as regard to HC, weight and height shown in the (Table 10).
- Comparing the three grops as regard to vital signs shown in the ( Table 11 ).

#### Results of laboratory investigations

C. Reactive protein (CRP): In the septic group was + ve in all cases (100% + ve) and in the suspected group was - ve in all cases (100% - ve) and was - ve in all cases of control group (100% - ve). (Table 13).

<u>Haemoglobin (HB)</u>: - In the septic group; the Mean HB was  $16.17 \pm 1.77$  and was significantly higher than suspected group  $13.83 \pm 2.74$ . But in the control group the mean HB was  $17.30 \pm 1.16$  and was significantly higher than suspected group and septic group. (P<0.05). And there was No significant difference in the septic VS. Control group. (Table 12).

White blood cells (WBCS): Mean WBCS in the septic group was  $21.70 \pm 2.45$  and was not significantly higher than suspected group  $21.30 \pm 1.56$  and significantly higher than the control group  $13.35 \pm 1.11$  (P<0.05). (Table 12).

<u>Interleukin - 1B. (IL-1B)</u>: The means IL-1B plasma concentration was  $27.66 \text{ pg/ml} \pm 24.21$  and was significantly higher than suspected

group 6.65  $\pm$  5.74 and control group 2.52  $\pm$  2.23 . ( P< 0.05 ) . ( Table 15 ) .

Interleukin 1 receptor antagonist (IL-1ra): The mean IL-1ra plasma concentration the septic group was  $4972.20 \text{ pg/ml} \pm 1374.59 \text{ and was}$  significantly higher than suspected group  $2170.60 \text{ pg/ml} \pm 579.41 \text{ (P < 0.01)}$ . (Table 16).

- The Mean IL-1ra plasma concentration in the septic group was significantly higher than the control group 265.40 pg/ml  $\pm$  101.68 ( P < 0.001 )
- Mean IL-1ra plasma concentration in the suspected group was significantly higher than the control group (P < 0.001).

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Table (4): Laboratory data of group (1) ( septic group )

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	1445	1250	2756	2355		1156	2080	2300	2529	71.47		1651	2352	3204	2620	2112	3250	1814	2050	2108	1520		IL-1ra (Pg/ml)		
14. 1		5.4	2.9	10.6	4.5		9.9	16.9	6.4	15.1	11.0	2.6	3.6	2.2	0.75	2.6	18.2	1		6.4	2.2		IL-18 (Pg/ml)	1 (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1	

-Ve 2 6 -ve 17.9 5.5M 12000 0.5 2 60 30 6  -Ve 3 7 -ve 18.9 5.5M 12000 0.5 2 60 30 6  -Ve 5 10 -ve 16.9 5.6M 13000 0.2 2 55 30 5  -Ve 2 8 -ve 19.9 5.4M 14000 0.5 2 62 62 25 6  -Ve 3 7 -ve 19.9 5.4M 14000 0.2 3 59 30 5  -Ve 5 9 -ve 18.9 5.6M 12000 5 2 61 30 70  -Ve 5 6 -ve 17.9 5.4M 14500 0.5 2.5 64 25 71  -Ve 3 9 -ve 17.9 5.4M 13000 0.3 3 61 30 6  -Ve 5 10 -ve 19.9 5.4M 12000 0 0 2 60 26 5  -Ve 5 10 -ve 19.9 5.4M 12000 0 0 2 60 26 5	T 3	- Number
May   May		o O
Type         1(9)         Type         1(9)         Type         Count         B%         E%         Seg%         L%         M%           -ve         17.9         5.5M         12000         0.5         2         60         30         6           -ve         18.9         5.3M         14000         0.5         2.5         63         29         7           -ve         16.9         6M         13000         0.2         2         55         30         5           -ve         19.9         5.4M         14000         0.5         2         62         25         6           -ve         18.9         5.6M         12000         5         2         61         30         70           -ve         16.9         6.1M         14500         0.5         2.5         64         25         71           -ve         17.9         5M         13000         0.3         3         61         30         6           -ve         19.9         5.4M         12000         0         2         60         26         5           -ve         16.9         5.1M         14000         0.5         2.5	2	
18.9   5.4M   12000   0.5   2.5   63   29   7   16.9   5.4M   12000   0.5   2.5   63   29   7   16.9   5.4M   12000   0.5   2.5   63   29   7   16.9   5.4M   12000   0.2   2   62   25   63   17.9   5.4M   12000   0.5   2.5   64   25   71   17.9   5.4M   12000   0.3   3   61   30   6   19.9   5.4M   12000   0.3   3   61   30   6   19.9   5.4M   12000   0.5   2.5   64   25   71   17.9   5.4M   12000   0.5   2.5   64   25   55   56   19.9   5.4M   12000   0.5   2.5   64   25   55   56   19.9   5.4M   12000   0.5   2.5   64   25   55   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   2.5   64   2.5   55   55   2.5   64   25   55   55   55   55   55   55   5	7	JESR H Znu H
WB:C   SegW   L%   M9%   SegW   SegW   L%   M9%   SegW   SegW	-ve	* # A
Count         B%         E%         Seg%         L%         M%           12000         0.5         2         60         30         6           14000         0.5         2.5         63         29         7           13000         0.2         2         55         30         5           14000         0.5         2         62         25         6           14500         0.5         2.5         64         25         71           13000         0.3         3         61         30         6           12000         0         2         60         26         5           14000         0.5         2.5         64         25         71           14000         0.5         2.5         60         26         5           14000         0.5         2.5         55         23         5	16.9	~ &
MB%     E%     Seg%     L%     M%       0.5     2     60     30     6       0.5     2.5     63     29     7       0.2     2     55     30     5       0.5     2     62     25     6       0.5     2     61     30     5       0.3     3     61     30     6       0.5     2.5     60     26     5       0.5     2.5     55     23     5	5.1M	Tal Laborato
W.B.C  E.% Seg% L.% M%  2 60 30 6  2.5 63 29 7  2.5 62 25 6  2 62 25 6  2 61 30 5  2.5 64 25 71  2 60 26 5  2.5 55 23 5	14000	Table (6): Laboratory data of group Laboratory findings C.B.C W.B.C RB.cs Count B% E% Seg%
W.B.C	0.5	aborato
89% L% M/% 6 60 30 6 63 29 7 63 29 7 65 30 5 6 30 70 6 30 6 6 5 71 6 5 23 5	2.5	atory data o
5 5 6 71 6 5 7 6 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	55	of group
	23	
14 22 28 16 27 14 27 28 16 27 14 27 28 16 27 14 27 28 16 27 14 27 28 16 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27	O1	control group
a (Pg/ml) 376 463 334 212 212 285 285	143	ID) IL-1ra (Pg/ml)
1L-1B (Pg/ml) 3.6 0.175 1.57 5.08 3.6 1.22 2.9 6.8 0.8	,	1L-1B (Pg/ml)

Table7: Comparison between studied groups as regards age & gestational age.

ys         5.05         1.57         6.30         2.36         5.10           age         38.60         1.14         39.80         0.77         39.70	Variable	Septic	Septic n = 20	Suspecte	Suspected n=20	Contro	ontrol n=10	t1		12
1.57     6.30     2.36     5.10       1.14     39.80     0.77     39.70	Variable	Mean	±SD	Mean	±SD	Mean	±SD			
1.14 39.80 2.36 5.10 1.14 39.80 0.77 39.70	Age in Jave	ላ በላ	1 57							
1.14 39.80 0.77	age in days	0.00	1.5/	6.30	2.36	5.10	-0.	0.99	99 1.97	
	Gestational age	38.60	1.14	39.80	0 77	30 70	5	<u>ا</u>		200
_	n wk.			1		0).70		0.73	3.90 "	

tl Septic vs . Suspected

vs . Control

t2 Septic t3 Suspected vs . Control

\* P < 0.05

Table8: Sex distribution in the studied groups.

	S	Septic	Sus	pected	C	ontrol
	No	%	No	%	No	%
M	10	50.0	17	85.0	6	60.0
$\overline{F}$	10	50.0	3	15.0	4	40.0
Total	20	100.0	20	100.0	10	100.0

 $X_{2}^{2}=5.66$ 

p > 0.05

<u>Table9</u>: Comparison of the studied cases according to medical history.

	Se	ptic	Susj	pected	Со	ntrol		
	n	= 20	n	=20	n	=10	$\chi^2$	$\mathcal{P}$
			į					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Antenatal	<u> </u>							-
Normal	10	50.0	17	85.0	10.0	100		
Abnormal	10	50.0	3	15.0	0.0	0.0	10.76	<0.01*
Natal				<u> </u>			-	<u> </u>
Vaginal	13	65.0	18	90.0	10	100		
CS	7	35.0	2	10.0	0.0	0.0	6.98	<0.05*
Postnatal				 				
Normal	0	0.0	2	10.0	10	100	ļ	
Abnormal	20	100	18	90.0	0.0	0.0	40.13	<0.001*
Feeding		-						
Breast	4	20.0	17	85.0	10	100		<0.001*
Artificial	16	80.0	3	15.0	0.0	0.0	25.59	

Table 10: Distribution between studied groups as regards length, weight and HC

> 0.05	0.94	0.76	35.05	0.58	34.38	2.41	33.00	nc (cm)
>0.05	0.77	0.16	3.01	0.17	2.95			5)
							3 01	Wainht(Va)
>0.05	2.99	0.68	50.30	0.87	49.70	0.68	49.60	Length ( Cm) 49.00
						,	10 00	I ~~ 1 ( C - )
	<u>_</u>	±SD	Mean	±SD	Mean	HSD CIS+	Mean	Variable
						2	3.5	V/amialia
		n=10	n=	20	n=20	20	n=20	
P	J.	Control	Cos	cted	Suspected	tic	Septic	
								_

Table 11: Distribution between studied groups as regards vital signs

2.64*	4.68 *	5.86 *	0.20	36.98	36.98	37.33	0.64	36.25	Temperature
17.45*	18.12*	2.53 *	1.70	40.30	40.30	77.00	7.05	70.50	RR
6.49	4.94 *	1.32	16.91	134.50	13.24	171.00	15.48	165.00	HR
		ļ	±SD	Mean	±SD	Mean	±SD	Mean	Variable
			n=10	<i>n</i> =	20	n=20	20	n=20	-
t3	12		Control	Cos	cted	Suspected	tic	Septic	

t1 Septict2 Septict3 Suspected vs . Suspected

vs . Control

vs . Control

\* P < 0.05

Table12: Comparison between studied groups as regards ESR, CBC results.

	_ Se	Septic	Suspected	cted	Co	Control	tl	12	13
	n	n=20	n =20	20	n	n=10			
Variable	Mean	±SD	Mean	±SD	Mean	±SD			<del></del>
	16 17	1						i	-
110	16.17	1.77	13.83	2.74	17.30	1.16	3.22*	1.83	4.87*
RBCs	5.34	0.68	4.92	0.60	5.50	0.35	2.10*	0.70	2.84*
ESR(mean)	83.13	16.36	60.98	24.57	5.55	1.17	3.36***	21.10**	10.07*
WPC	21 70	ברי בייניים בייניים	,						
WDCS	21./0	2.45	21.30	1.56	13.35	1.11	0.62	10.19*	14.36*
Segmented	74.05	1.82	71.85	2.28	60.00	3.02	3.37*	15.94*	12.05*

ದ

Suspected

vs. Control.

\*\*\* P < 0.001

\*\* P < 0.01

\* P < 0.05

ひ

Septic

vs. Control

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Septic

vs . Suspected

Table 13: Comparison between studied groups as regards CRP.

	Se	ptic	Susp	ected	Control	
	NO.	%	No.	%	No	%
+ve	20	100.0	20	100.0	0	0.0
-ve	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	100.0
Total	20	100.0	20	100.0	10	100.0

$$X_{2}^{2} = 50.00$$

\* P < 0.001

<u>Tabel 14</u>: <u>Distribution of the blood + ve culture neonates</u> <u>according to type of organisms</u>.

Septicemic neonates	Septicemic + Ve Blood cluture		
	No	%	
Blood culture		:	
Escherechia coli	5	25.0	
Staphylococcus aureus.	3	15.0	
Coagulase - ve staphylococcus.	2	10.0	
Streptococcus pyogens.	3	15.0	
Klebsiella	2	10.0	
Enterococci	2	10.0	
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	1	5.0	
Listeria monocytogens	2	10.0	

<u>Table15: - Comparison between studied groups as regards</u>

### <u>IL-1B</u>.

grougs	mean <u>+</u> SD	t	P
Septic vs .	27.66 <u>+</u> 42.21		
Suspected	6.65 <u>+</u> 5.74	2.20	<0.05
Septic Vs.	27.66 ± 42.21		
Control	2.52 <u>+</u> 2.23	2.66	<0.05
Suspected Vs.	6.65 ± 5.74		
Control	2.52 <u>+</u> 2.23	2.82	< 0.01

Septic vs. Suspected
Septic vs. Control

Suspected vs. Control CI 1.12-7.13

CI 1.13 - 40.88

CI 5.32- 44.95

<u>Table16: Comparison between studied groups as regards</u> <u>IL-1 Ra</u>.

Groups	mean <u>+</u> SD	t	P
Septic Vs.	4972.20 ± 1374.59		
Suspected.	2170.60 ± 579.41	8.40	< 0.01
Septic vs	4972.20 ± 1374.59		
control	265.40 ± 101.68	15.23	> 0.001
Suspected vs.	2170.60 ± 579.41		
control	265.40 <u>+</u> 101.68	14.27	< 0.001
Septic V	s. Suspected	* CI	2116-3487

Septic Vs. Control \* CI 4060-5354

Suspected Vs. Control \* CI 1628-2183

<u>Table17: Correlation between IL-1receptor antagonist and other</u>
<u>variables in septic group.</u>

r	Ф
-0.475	<0.05*
-0.008	>0.05
0.443	<0.05 *
0.104	>0.05
0.137	>0.05
0.361	>0.05
-0.143	>0.05
0.360	>0.05
	-0.475 -0.008 0.443 0.104 0.137 0.361 -0.143

Table 18: Evaluation of IL-1RA in prediction of sepsis.

,	Sept	tic group	Suspec	cted group	Total
IL- 1RA		%		%	
> 3000	19	95.0	2	10.0	21
<3000	1	5.0	18	90.0	19
Total	20	100	20	100	40

## \* Blood culture is considered the reference test for sepsis.

Sensitivity = 95.0%

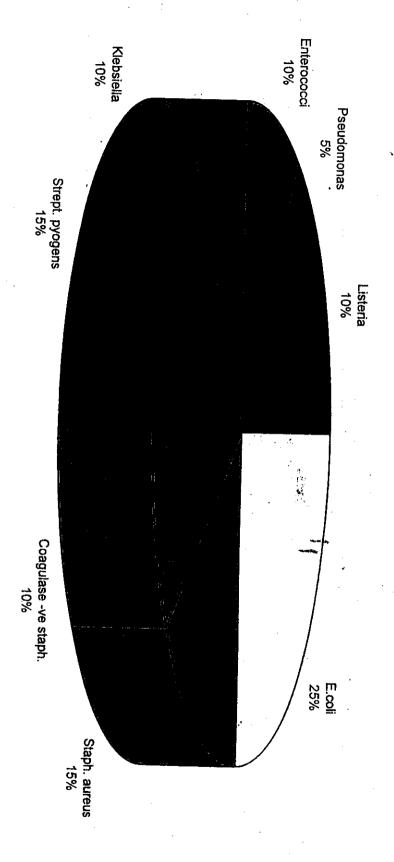
Specificity = 90.0%

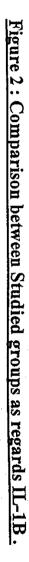
Positive predective value = 90.5%

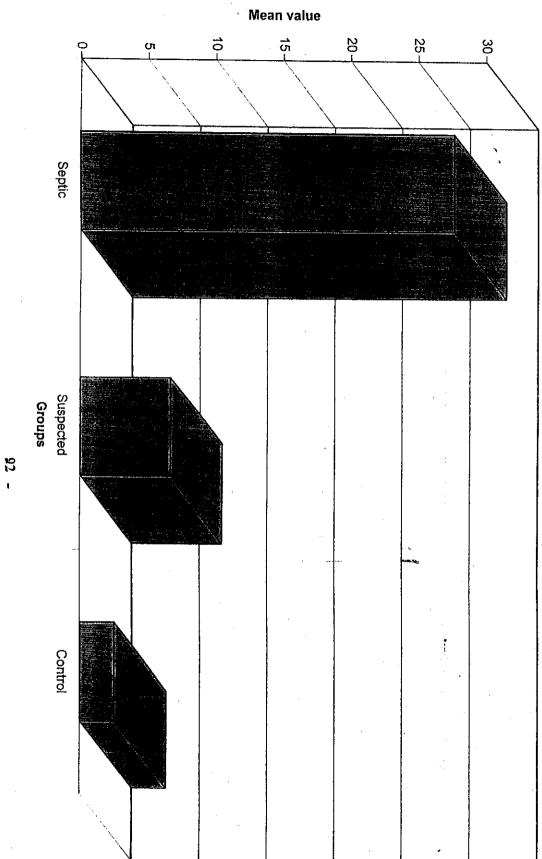
Negative predective value = 94.7%

Diagnositic efficiency = 92.5%

Figure 1: Distribution of the blood + ve culture neonates according to type of organisms.







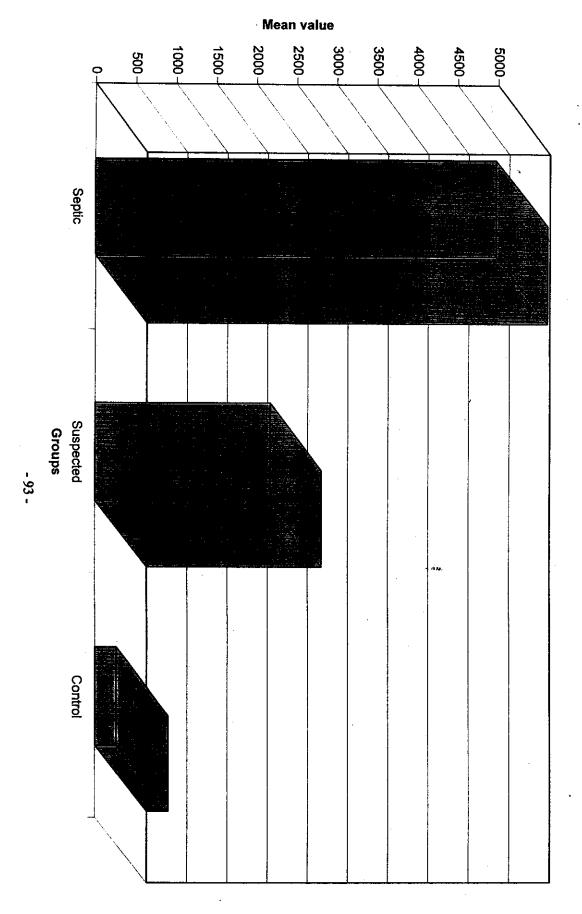
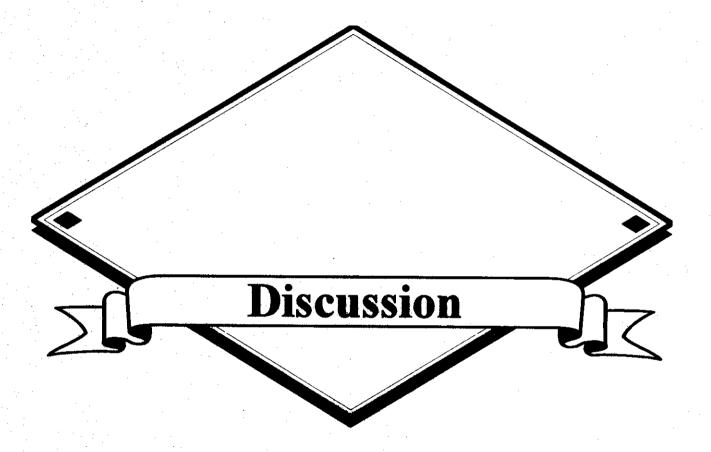


Figure 3: Comparison between Studied groups as regards IL-1ra.



# **DISCUSSION**

The newborns particularly the preterm infants are immunocompromised in several ways, which predispose them to infection ( Hague, 1992 ). The incidence of neonatal sepsis ranged from 1-10 per 1000 live birth ( Gotoff, 1996 ). The high incidence may be due to low socioeconomic standard and most of the patients have one or more risk factors to develop septicemia. Early clinical diagnosis of neonatal infection is difficult because of non specific presentation of infection, and adelay in diagnosis may be associated with increase morbidity and mortaliy ( Russel et al., 1992 ).

Although the high incidence of bacterial infection in the newborns appears to be multifactorial, one of the most important deficits in the neonatal immune system is the quantitative deficiency in the myeloid and phagocytic system . Additionally, despite normal circulating numbers of mature effector phagocytes, the presence of serious in vitro neutrophil abnormalities may still exist and predispose the neonate to an impaired bacterial infection whelming during over response immune (Cairo, 1991) .Cytokines including colony stimulating factors, tumor necrosis factor and many interleukines mediate the complex series of responses to infection (Dinarello, 1991). The present study carried out on (50) neonates including (20) septicemic with postive blood culture, (20) infants with same clinical manifestations of sepsis but with negative blood culture ( suspected group ) and (10) healthy control neonates The mean body weight of septicemic group of infants was (  $29100 \pm 0.26$  ) gm, in suspected group it was (  $2950 \pm 0.17$  ) gm and in control group was (  $3010 \pm 0.16$  ) gm with significant difference between the 3 groups ( p < 0.05 ) .

Bhakoo and singh; (1988); found that the incidence of neonatal sepsis was higher among lower birth weight infants.

We found that (13) septic neonates (65%) delivered vaginally and (7) septic neonates (35%) by C.S but (18) suspected neonates (90%) delivered vaginally and (2) suspected neonates (10%) by C.S without significant difference from the control neonates. A similar finding was recorded by EL. Hefney et al, (1986). Who found that out of 25 septicemic cases 22 (80%) were delivered vaginally and 3 cases (12%) by C.S.

Most of our septicemic babies were presented by poor feeding (85%) followed by respiratory distress (75%), poor reflexes (70%), Lethargy (70%), cyanosis and apnea(45%) and hypothermia (25%) and Jundice (10%).

In other study carried out by soliman et al., (1993). In pediatric department of AL. Hussain university hospital, they found that septicemic presentations were poor feeding (58.5%), Lelhargy (48%), apnea (40%), Hypothermia and fever (32.5%) each, hepatomegally (25%), Jundice (18%), sclerema and petichea (45%) each.

Baker (1994) showed that septicemic presentations were feeding difficulties (57.5%), hepatomegally (40%) respiratory distress (25%), splenomegally and Jaundice (25%) each, diarrhea and shock (22.5%) each, poor reflexes, lethargy and vomiting (20%) each, oliguria, hypothermia and fever (15%) each, convulsions (10%), abdominal distension, dehydratron and cynosis were (7.5%) each.

EL.Naggar; (1995) found that the common clinical manifestatrons of septicemic full terms were, poor feeding (84%), lethargy (64%), respiratory distress (46%) and abdominal distension (40%); the less common presentations were scleroderma, irritability, seizures and vomiting.

Studies by El- Sallab et al; (1987) and Al-Saleh et al., (1984) found more or less similar clinical findings.

Regarding risk factors; The present study was carried out on (40) septicemic neonates. In septicemic + ve culture neonates (25%) suffered from prolonged labour, premature rupture of membrane (PROM) in (25%), Meconium aspiration in (15%), urinary tract infection (UTI) in (10%), and intrapartum fever in (5%), and no risk factor in (40%) of cases. These results are in agreement with the study done by kawamura et al; 1995 which included the same risk factor.

In the present study; All cases of septic group (100%) showed postive C.R.P, all cases of suspected group showed postive C.R.P and the control group (100%) showed negative CRP with a significant difference between each of septic and suspected groups and control group (P < 0.001).

Infection activates the acute phase response which may be detected by alternations in the peripheral blood neutrophil and an increase in serum proteins such as CRP. Although such changes are non specific, they are thought to give indirect evidence of infection (Russel et al; 1992). Alt et al., (1982) found with CRP (48.2%) false negative results in the first 12 hours of life. kushner et al; (1973) claimed that an increased level of CRP without infection can be seen in cases with



PROM, maternal fever during labour and /or perinatal asphyxia. Aiebender et al., (1982) added fetal distress, shock and /or Meconium aspiration as other causes of rise in CRP. On the other hand, some authors pointed out false negative results of CRP in cases of early streptococcus B infections (Sonn et al., 1984). This is a major drawback since group B streptococcus is frequently present in maternofetal infections and the mortality in these streptococcal infections was negative (philip and Hewitt, 1980).

In the present study the mean of RBCs count and HB were significantly lower among suspected group than both septic and control groups (P < 0.05). This findings did not agree with that of **Feigin et al**; (1987) who showed that lower level of HB and RBCs in neonatal sepsis are secondary to hemolytic process in sepsis.

In the present study the mean ESR was significantly higher in septic group than the suspected group ( P < 0.05) and control group ( P < 0.001). The mean ESR was significantly higher in the suspected group than in the control group ( P < 0.01).

In the present study; Septic group as suspected group showed significant higher WBCs count than control group (P < 0.05).

Some authors considered the change in leucocyic count is useful in direct indication of bacterial infection (Avery; 1987, Benuck and David, 1983). On the other, Rozychietal, (1987) and christensen (1987) warned that a nomal blood leucocytic count should not exclude diagnosis of systemic bacterial infection and that antimicrobial treatment should not be withheld from ill neonates on the basis of normal neutrophil count or morphology.

Rozychi et al., (1987) Found that the tolal WBCs count was of poor predictive value in neonatal sepsis as a wide variation exist in the tolal WBCs count in neonatal peroid. Manroe el al., (1979) found that maternal and prenatal factors, other than Sepsis could influence the total WBCs count. Change in morphology of neutrophils such as vacuolization and toxic granulation also suggest the presence of infection (Lio et al., 1984).

The Caustive organisms of neonatal sepsis vary form nursery to nursery between different geographical area and in the same area with time Hospital to hospital variability in incidence may be related to sate of prematurity, prenatal care, conduct of labour and environmental condition in nurseries (Ohlasson and vemcombe, 1987).

In our study, in the Septicemic + ve culture, the most prevalent Caustive oraganisms were E.coli (25%), staph aureus (15%), streptococus pyogens (15%), coagulase-ve staphylococcus (10%), Klebsiella (10%), Enterococci (10%), Listeria monocytogens (10%) and pseudomonas aeroginosa (5%).

Vesikari et al; (1989) in his study performed from 1981-1985 to difine the caustive organisms in neonatal sepsis found that GBS, staph aureus and E. Coli were the predominant organisms causing (29%), (25%), (24%) of cases respectively.

Rodwell et al, (1993) found that GBS was the most predominant organism Causing (50%) of Cases, while E.Coli Causes (25%), stephylococci Causes (12%) and hemophilus influenza Causes (6.2%) of all cll cases.

In Tanta faculty of medicne NICU, Shohaib et al; (1989) found that the staphylococci and E.coli were the most prevelant organism causing neonatal septicemia.

In our study we found that the mean plasma concentration of IL-1ra in the septic group was significantly higher than the suspected group (p< 0.001) and control group (P<0.001). Suspected group was significantly higher than control group (p<0.001).

These results are in agreement with that of **De Bont**, et al;(1995); who reported that mean plasma concentration of IL-1ra in the septic group was significantly higher than both the suspected (P<0.01) and control (p<0.01) groups. Suspected group was significantly higher than control group (p<0.01).

Geiger R et al; (1996); found that neonates with severe illness (Septicemia, asphyxia, neonatal respiratory distress syndrome), who received invasive intensive care, circulating IL-1ra levels were significantly higher than in the reference group of healthy neoborns.

In our study, in the septic group the senstivity of IL-1ra was (95%) and specificity was (90.0%) with a positive predictive value of (40.5%) and a negative predictive value of (44.7%) and Diagnostic efficiency (42.7%).

Also; In our study; in the septic group there was insignificant postive correlation between IL-1ra and Mean ESR, HB, RBCS, WBCS and segmented and there was significant postive correlation between IL-1ra and age and gestional age (P < 0.05).

In the septic group the mean plasma concentration of IL-1B was significantly higher than both suspected group (P<0.05) and control group (P<0.01).

These results are in agreement with that of De Bont et al; (1995); Mean plasma concentration of IL-1B was significantly higher in the septic neonates than suspected group (P < 0.05) and control group.

Also; they also found that IL-1 plasma concentrations of IL-1ra was 50 - 100 fold Higher ( De Bont et al; 1995 ).

In our study we found that IL-1ra plasma concentrations was 180 fold Higher than IL-1B in the septic group .

Granowitz (1991); shows that newborns with infections, bacteremia and /or sepsis have elevated interleukin - 1 receptor antagonist (IL-1ra) plasma concentration as high as adult during sepsis.

Interleukin-1 receptor antagonist (IL-1ra) is a natural occuring inhibitor that blocks the action of interleukin 1 (IL-1) by competitive binding to its receptor. IL-1ra can block E.coli induced shock in rabbits and baboons when given 15 minutes before bacterial infusion (Wakabuyashi; et al 1991).

In addition the IL-1ra infused in baboons attenuated the sustained IL-1B response ( Fischer E; et al 1992 ) .

During in vivo studies with human mononuclear cells, IL-1ra given 30 minutes. before stimulation inhibits IL-1 induced IL-1, TNF and IL.6 prduction in a dose dependant manner as well as endotoxin induced cytokine synthesis (Granowitz; 1992).

Anderson et al; (1992) demonstrated that the peak of IL-1ra production by peripheral blood mononuclear cells was at 4th hour after stimulation. Monocytes can produce IL-1B and IL-1ra at the same time.