

INTRODUCTION & AIM OF THE WORK

Schistosomiasis is one of the major world health problems, in Egypt its prevalence, severity and complications are threatening the life of many of the inhabitants. The fundamental among these complications are hepatosplenomegaly and portal hypertension with oesophageal varices (O.V.) which when rupture may end in terminal gastrointestinal bleeding. (Manson-Bahr & Apted, 1984)

Endoscopic injection sclerotherapy (EIS) for these varices has proved by many workers to be successful in its management (Terblanche et al., 1979). The technique began to be performed by many centers, in Egypt it gained wide popularity.

However this invasive procedure has some complications e.g., dysphagia, fever, chest pain, bleeding oesophageal varices and bacteraemia (Cohen et al., 1983).

The last point which is bacteraemia is the main interest of the dissertation.

Studying the incidence of bacteraemia following endoscopic injection sclerotherapy (EIS) is therefore the aim of our work.

Persons included will be divided into two groups.

First group includes 20 patients with recent history of

bleeding oesophageal varices for injection sclerotherapy.

Second group includes 10 patients submitted to diagnostic endoscopy and not complaining of liver troubles or oesophageal varices, considered as control group.

Both groups will be subjected to blood culture before, one hour after and 24 hours after instrumentation.

All blood samples taken from patients and control groups will be cultured both aerobically and anaerobically.