
Tracing the source of postoperative bacterial infection at surgical wards in benha university hospital

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This study was performed to identify the types of causative micro-organisms of postoperative wound sepsis and to trace the possible sources of infection among patients, personnel & environment. The study was done during the period from January to September 2003 on 100 patients (68 males & 32 females) who operated upon and developed surgical wound infection in different surgical departments of Benha University Hospital including general surgery, urological, orthopedic, gynecological & obstetric departments. Two swabs were taken from each postoperative wound sepsis. One of them inoculated on the different ordinary media and incubated aerobically and the other inoculated on blood agar selective for anaerobe and incubated anaerobically. Any colonial growth was subculture to get pure cultures. Films were prepared by Gram staining, biochemical reactions (biotyping) were performed for each isolated strain then antibiotyping was done for them. Serotyping was done for the isolated *E. coli* by using polyvalent serum; monovalent serotyping was not done due to unavailability of monovalent serum. The cytopathic effect of *E. coli* strain filtrate on Vero cell line was done & its effect on Vero cells monolayer was assayed as follows: 55.5% of strains were found to have verocytotoxic toxin & 44.4 % had no effect on the Vero cells.