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# INCIDENCE OF CAAMPYLOBACTER JEJUNI AND CAMPYLOBACTER COIL AMONG CASES OF DIARRHEA

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Campylobacteria has long been known to cause diarrheal disease in animals, but are also one of the most common causes of diarrhea in humans. The delay in recognizing the importance of these organisms was due to their cultural requirements which differ from those of Enterobacteria. The interest with these organisms has continued to the present and will doubtless continue into the foreseeable future. Today with improved media and isolation procedures the clinical laboratories isolate thermophilic Campylobacteria routinely in every investigation of a diarrheal illness. This work aimed for the isolation of Campylobacter jejuni and C. coli among cases of diarrhea, the percentage of these organisms in relation to Salmonella and Shigella species and the age group with the highest infection with Campylobacteria. The material of our study included 90 infants, children and adults up to the age 18 years. They were randomly chosen from the out-patient clinics of Pediatric and Internal Medicine Department El-Sahel Teaching Hospital and Abbasia Fever Hospital from both sexes and various age groups. Sixty were suffering from diarrhea and the remaining thirty were not suffering from diarrhea and were acting as a control group. Stool specimens were collected and were immediately cultured both microaerophilic for the isolation of Campylobacter organisms and aerobically for the isolation of Salmonella and Shigella species on a variety of enrichment, differential and selective media. Campylobacter jejuni I coli were isolated from stools of 15% of cases and 3.3% of healthy controls with no significant statistically ( $p > 0.05$ ). Salmonella were isolated from stools of 6.7% of cases and no organisms could be isolated from healthy controls, no Shigella cases were detected in our study. This indicates that Campylobacteria were the most common bacterial enteric pathogen isolated from diarrheal cases. In this study, the age group