



## Study on fasting gastric electrical activity among patients with portal hypertension

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### Abstract

**AIM:** To study the fasting gastric electrical activity in patients with portal hypertension.

**METHODS:** Fasting gastric electrical activity was recorded and measured in 35 cases of cirrhotic with portal hypertension and compared with that in 20 healthy individuals using EGG. Measurements included: predominant frequency (PF), zero frequency (ZF) and percentage of gastric electrical arrhythmia.

**RESULTS:** Percentage of gastric electrical disturbance was much

higher in cirrhotics than that of normals. The values of PF were 57% and 49%, that of ZF were 40% and 57%. The percentage of this abnormality was significantly higher among those patients with symptoms of gastric motility disturbance. The values of PF were 68% and 64% versus 38% and 23%, that of ZF were 45% and 59% versus 31% and 46%. In accordance with Childs classification, the respective percentage of gastric electrical disturbance recorded from gastric antrum in Child A were 33% and 17% in Child B were 53% and 35%, all Child C patients had this abnormality.

**CONCLUSION:** The present study suggested that the percentage of gastric electrical disturbance was much higher in cirrhotics than that of normals. This abnormality might explain the dyspeptic symptoms of the cirrhotics. Furthermore, gastric electrical disturbances were also related to liver dysfunction as illustrated in this study.

**Key words:** Liver dysfunction; Cirrhosis; Gastric electrical disturbance

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