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Study of cerebrospinal fluid markers in rapid diagnosis of community acquired bacterial meningitis

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Analysis of the results showed that sugar that sugar ratio or protein value alone was not a good indicator in the diagnosis of bacterial meningitis. White blood cells showed a very high specificity but the sensitivity was very low. Only antigen detection yielded established pathogens of community acquired bacterial meningitis. Gram staining yielded 7 positive cases. Throat swabs gave two isolates of pneumococci. Study also showed that diabetes mellitus was a common predisposing factor of community acquired bacterial meningitis. Fever headache neck stiffness and confusion were the commonest signs and symptoms encountered in the study.