

# The Relationship Between the Mean Platelet Volume and the Development of Spontaneous Ascites Fluid Infection in Patients with Decompensated Cirrhosis

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## ABSTRACT

**Objective:** Spontaneous ascitic fluid infection (SAI) is one of the frequent and important complication of decompensated cirrhosis with high mortality. Mean platelet volume (MPV) is a parameter that shows the activity, stimulation and production of platelets. Changes in MPV are important indicators of platelet production, and are also an indicator of the severity of many diseases, such as sepsis, thrombosis, or even respiratory distress syndrome. In our study, we aimed to analyze the relationship between spontaneous ascites infection and mean platelet volume.

**Methods:** 98 cirrhosis patients (42 females, 56 males) with various etiologies were participated to the study. The patients were divided into two groups as SAI positive group including patients with ascitic culture positive and/or ascites polymorphonuclear leukocyte count (PMNL) >250 mm<sup>3</sup> and SAI negative group including patients with no bacterial reproduction in their ascites fluid culture and ascites PMNL count <250 mm<sup>3</sup>.

**Results:** There were 52 patients as 19 females and 33 males, in SAI positive group and 46 patients as 23 females and 23 males, in SAI negative group. In spontaneous ascites infection-positive group, spontaneous ascites infection mean platelet volume ( $p<0.001$ ) and leukocyte count (WBC) ( $p<0.001$ ) were detected to be significantly different statistically compared to the negative group. There was no statistically significant difference between the mean platelet volume ( $p=0.795$ ) and platelet distribution percentage ( $p=0.775$ ) in SAI positive patients ( $p>0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** Mean platelet volume in patients with spontaneous ascites infection who have developed, decompensated cirrhosis significantly increases. It is possible to use this test which is cheap, non-invasive and fast in the early diagnosis and treatment to follow-up of spontaneous ascites infection.

## INTRODUCTION

Spontaneous ascites infection (SAI) which is one of the most significant complication of decompensated liver cirrhosis, was observed very frequently and causes high mortality. An indication of severe liver failure, spontaneous ascites infection occurs in nearly 10% to 30% of cirrhosis patients with ascites. SAI is generally observed in patients with advanced stage liver cirrhosis and may be more rarely observed in fulminant liver failure, chronic alcoholic hepatitis and noncirrhotic liver diseases that cause ascites formation. In cirrhosis patients, bacteria may come into systemic circulation due to insufficiency of the cellular and humoral immune system and may spread to ascites with

lengthened bacteremia. A variety of factors like intestinal bacterial permeability, reticuloendothelial system function disorder, low opsonin activity in peritoneal fluid, acute gastrointestinal system (GIS) hemorrhage and low serum complement levels play a role in development of SAI.<sup>[1]</sup>

In cirrhosis patients, death may occur rapidly due to ascites infection. After the first SAI attack, survival rates increase if early diagnosis is made, and with developed diagnostic methods and appropriate empirical treatment methods.<sup>[2]</sup> If decompensated liver cirrhosis patients with ascites are suspected of spontaneous ascites infection, some tested inflammatory markers may be supportive to begin early prophylaxis before ascites culture results. Inflammation is an important stimulus for platelets. Mean platelet volume

is a parameter showing the activity, stimulation and productivity of platelets.<sup>[3]</sup> Changes in mean platelet volume are associated with platelet production and it is a marker of changes in the severity of a variety of diseases. Mean platelet volume is studied as a simple, cheap, rapid and reliable inflammatory marker in many diseases.<sup>[4]</sup> In our study we aimed to research the correlation of spontaneous ascites infection with mean platelet volume.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Our study was retrospectively screened the files and tests of 98 patients with liver cirrhosis diagnosis from 2014 to 2018. Patients without paracentesis performed, with active GIS hemorrhage and with additional systemic infections apart from spontaneous ascites infection was not included in the study. Patients using medications that can affect platelet count and functions and the coagulation system, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories, aspirin, oral anticoagulants and oral contraceptives were excluded from the study. SAI was defined as proliferation of bacteria in ascites fluid and/or ascites fluid polymorphonuclear leukocyte count above 250/mL, which was surgically treatable with no clear infection source. Patients with secondary peritonitis, acute pancreatitis, peritoneal carcinomatosis or accompanying secondary malignancy was removed from the study. From all patients at least 10 mL ascites fluid was removed with paracentesis and samples with appropriate seeding in BACTEC culture tubes for aerobic and anaerobic culture were investigated in microbiology laboratory. Cases were divided into two main groups according to whether spontaneous ascites infection developed or not. The first group comprised of 52 patients as 19 females and as 33 males, who developed spontaneous ascites infection. The second group comprised of 46 patients as 23 females and as 23 males, who did not develop spontaneous ascites infection. For SAI diagnosis, ascites culture positivity was not a required criterion. Patients with SIA were divided into three subgroups according to the variables investigated.

1. Monomicrobial nonneutrocytic bacterascites (MNB) group: polymorphonuclear leukocyte (PMNL) count in ascites fluid  $<250/\text{mm}^3$  with proliferation of one microorganism in ascites fluid culture ( $n=7$ )
2. Culture negative neutrocytic ascites (CNNA) group: PMNL count in ascites fluid  $>250/\text{mm}^3$ , without proliferation in culture ( $n=34$ )
3. Classic spontaneous bacterial peritonitis (SBP) group: PMNL count in ascites fluid  $>250/\text{mm}^3$  and bacterial proliferation identified in ascites fluid culture ( $n=11$ ) Patients were examined for age, sex, hemogram, CRP, ESR, PLT, WBC, INR, serum albumin, serum total bilirubin, MPV, PDW, urea, creatinine, Na, ascites albumin-protein, ascites fluid culture and ascites fluid microscopy. The MPV, PDW, Hb, WBC, and PLT values were examined with a Mindray BC-6200 device while CRP, ESR, serum albumin, serum total bilirubin, urea, creatinine and Na values were examined in the bio-

chemistry laboratory with a Beckman Coulter AU 2700 device, and INR was examined with a Diagon Coay XL device. Ascites fluid culture and ascites fluid microscopy were performed in the microbiology laboratory seeded on blood, chocolate and Mac-Conkey agars with gram staining. These were incubated for 24–48 hours and studied with a BACTEC FX device. For each patient, serum-ascites albumin gradient (SAAG) was calculated. Patients had Child-Pugh, MELD and MELD Na scoring performed. Patients were classified according to these scoring methods. The differences in MPV and PDW values between patients developing or not developing SAI and the association of these parameters with other infective parameters were investigated. Analyses are made for the prognostic correlation between spontaneous ascites infection and mean platelet volume.

## Statistical analyze

Categoric variables are given as frequency and percentage. Continuous variables are given as mean, standard deviation, median, minimum and maximum values. The Kolmogorov Smirnov test was performed to test the normal distribution of continuous variables. Variables abiding by the assumption of normal distribution had the independent samples T test used to compare two independent groups. Variables not abiding by the assumption of normal distribution used the Mann Whitney U test for comparison of two independent groups with the Kruskal Wallis H test used for comparisons of more than two groups.

ROC curve analyses were used for SAI cut-off for mean platelet volume and leukocyte count measurements.  $P<0.05$  was accepted as statistically significant.

Analyses were performed with the NCSS 11 (Number Cruncher Statistical System, 2017 Statistical Software) Program and MedCalc Statistical Software version 18 (MedCalc Software bvba, Ostend, Belgium; <http://www.medcalc.org>; 2018).

## RESULTS

Our study includes a total of 98 patients with ascites linked to liver cirrhosis. Of cases, 42 were female (42.86%) and 56 were male (57.14%) with mean age of 67.98 years. There were 52 patients (53.06%) with spontaneous ascites infection identified and 46 patients (46.94%) without infection identified. Patients with spontaneous ascites infection identified were classified according to stages. Of SAI patients, 34 had CNNA (65.38%), 11 had classic SBP (21.15%) and 7 had MNB (13.46%). Liver cirrhosis severity was staged with the modified Child-Turcotte-Pugh score. There were no cases with Child-A identified, 37 cases with Child-B (37.76%), and 61 cases with Child-C stage (62.24%). Table 1 presents the frequency and percentage distributions of the variables. Table 2 gives the descriptive statistics like mean, standard deviation, minimum and maximum values related to the variables. The results of the analysis was detected the mean age as 67.98 years, mean

**Table 1.** Frequency and percentage distribution of variables

	<i>f</i>	%
SAI		
Negative	46	46.94
Positive	52	53.06
Gender		
Male	56	57.14
Female	42	42.86
Child pugh stage		
2	37	37.76
3	61	62.24
Assit culture		
0	83	84.69
1	15	15.31
SAI type		
0	46	46.94
Classic SBP	11	11.22
CNNA	34	34.69
MNB	7	7.14

Kolmogorov Smirnov test; SBP: spontaneous bacterial peritonitis; CNNA: Culture negative neutrocytic ascites; MNB: Monomicrobial nonneutrocytic bacterascites.

**Table 2.** Demographic and laboratory characteristics in the patients

	(n=98) Mean±SD
Age	67.98±10.74
Child Pugh score	10.08±1.77
Meld Na score	18.96±7.52
MELD score	16.59±6.77
Hemoglobin	10.17±1.88
White blood cells	7522.24±5327.27
PLT	126214.29±93869.43
C-reactive protein	45.32±43.86
Mean platelet volume	9.64±1.06
Platelet distribution width	17.88±3.31
Eritrosit sedimentation rate	36.45±24.93
INR	1.5±0.44
Assit albumin	0.74±0.67
Assit protein	2.02±1.72
Serum albumin	2.54±0.58
Serum assit albumin gradient	1.82±0.57
Creatinin	1.28±0.88
Serum sodium	133.13±6.13
Serum total bilirubin	3.62±4.19

Kolmogorov Smirnov test; MELD: Model for end-stage liver disease; PLT: Platelet; INR: International Normalized Ratio.

Child-Pugh score was 10.08, mean MELD Na score was 18.96, mean MELD score was 16.59, mean Hb level was 10.17, mean WBC level was 7522.24, mean PLT level was 126214.29, mean CRP level was 45.32, mean MPV level

was 9.64, mean PDW level was 17.88, mean ESR level was 36.45, mean INR level was 1.5, ascites albumin was 0.74, mean serum albumin level was 2.54, mean SAAG level was 1.82, mean creatinine level was 1.28, mean Na level was 133.13 and mean serum total bilirubin level was 3.62.

Table 3 comparatively investigates some variables according to SAI. There were no statistically significant differences identified for age ( $p=0.795$ ), Child-Pugh score ( $p=0.624$ ), MELD Na ( $p=0.096$ ) and MELD score ( $p=0.071$ ) levels. According to SAI, there were statistically significant differences identified for MPV ( $p=0.001$ ), WBC ( $p=0.001$ ), CRP ( $p=0.017$ ) and PLT ( $p=0.050$ ) levels. Mean platelet volume, platelet and leukocyte counts and CRP levels had higher median values in the positive group compared to the negative group. According to SAI, ESR ( $p=0.552$ ) was not identified to display statistically significant differences ( $p>0.05$ ).

According to SAI type of those positive for SAI, MPV ( $p=0.795$ ) and PDW ( $p=0.751$ ) levels were not identified to show statistically significant differences ( $p>0.05$ ). These levels had similar median values in the SBP, CNNA and MNB groups (Table 4). For ROC analysis, the cut-off value for SAI positivity was  $>10$ , and for SAI negativity was inversely  $<10$ . When the cut-off values for SAI positivity is  $>6300$ , contrarily for SAI negativity it was  $<6300$ . The mean platelet volume (AUC=0.700,  $p=0.002$ ) and leukocyte count (AUC=0.690,  $p=0.003$ ) variables were each statistically significant parameters for SAI positivity prediction. MPV  $>10$  and WBC  $>6300$  are associated with SAI positive status (Fig. 1).

## DISCUSSION

Spontaneous ascites infection is one of the most common and significant complication of liver cirrhosis. For SAI diagnosis the gold standard is diagnostic paracentesis which is associated with complications like hemorrhage, visceral perforation, local infection and permanent leak after paracentesis most of the time. As a result, there is a need for simple, rapid, noninvasive and cheap diagnostic tests for early diagnosis of SAI in cirrhosis patients.<sup>[5,6]</sup> Research had proven that many tests assist in the diagnosis of ascites infection. A few of these include leucocyte esterase reactive strips, pH test, ascites fluid lactoferrin level, and serum and ascites fluid procalcitonin levels. However, most of these tests are for research purposes and have very high costs.<sup>[7]</sup>

Platelets are known that these play important roles in the initiation and spread of vascular and inflammatory diseases. Mean platelet volume is accepted as an important parameter for determination of platelet activation. Large platelets are more enzymatically and metabolically active compared to small platelets and are known to be associated with inflammation.<sup>[8,9]</sup> Platelet distribution width is a marker of the variation in platelet volume and is a parameter associated with active platelet secretion.<sup>[10]</sup> MPV has been shown for use as a systemic inflammatory marker in a variety of inflammatory diseases though the correlation

**Table 3.** Demographic and laboratory characteristics according to the presence of spontaneous acid infection

	Negative (n=46)	Positive (n=52)	p
	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	
Age	67.63±11.24	68.29±10.37	0.795
Child Pugh score	10.13±1.85	10.04±1.71	0.624
Meld Na score	20.3±6.98	17.77±7.84	0.096
MELD score	17.8±6.63	15.52±6.78	0.071
MPV	9.26±0.85	9.98±1.11	0.001**
CRP	27.25±4.01	52.85±7.32	0.017*
ESR	33.67±20.82	38.9±28.04	0.552
PLT	111065.22±91364.08	139615.38±94887.37	0.05*
WBC	5646.09±3110.53	9181.92±6281.47	0.001**

Mann Whitney U test; SD: Standard deviation; MELD: Model for end-stage liver disease; MPV: Mean platelet volume; CRP: C-reactive protein; ESR: Eritrosit sedimentation rate; PLT: Platelet; WBC: White blood cells.

**Table 4.** Comparison of MPV and PDW levels in SAI positive patients

	Classic SBP (n=11)	CNNA (n=34)	MNB (n=7)	p
	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	Mean±SD	
MPV	9.96±1.25	9.97±1.16	10.06±0.71	0.795
PDW	17.65±2.11	17.81±3.74	18.96±3.91	0.751

Kruskall Wallis H test; SD: Standard deviation; MPV: Mean platelet volume; PDW: Platelet distribution width.

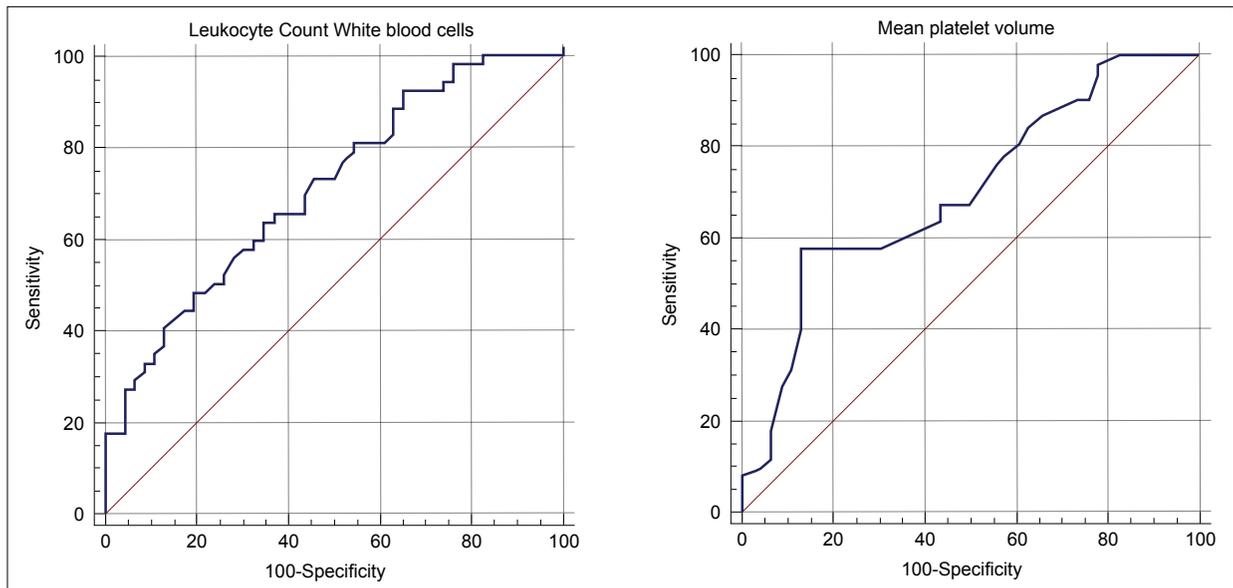
between platelets in liver cirrhosis and spontaneous ascites infection which has still not been fully clarified. In our research, we investigated the correlation of spontaneous ascites infection with mean platelet volume.

In our study, when the two groups with SAI+ and SAI- in ascites linked to liver cirrhosis are compared, there were no significant differences in the ages and sexes of patients. When patients with spontaneous ascites infection identified are classified according to stage, most SAI+ patients were observed to have CNNA. Liver cirrhosis was staged with the modified Child-Turcotte-Pugh score. While no Child-A case was identified, there were more Child C cases than Child-B cases. According to the study fulfilled by Galvez-Martinez et al.<sup>[11]</sup> they detected no clear difference in ages between the SAI+ and SAI- groups, but they showed significant elevation for the female sex among all cases. Additionally, as in our study, the highest rate was found for culture negative neutrocytic ascites. Similar to our study, there were more stage B and stage C patients compared to stage A patients. However, there was no significant difference observed between Stage B and Stage C patients.

In our study, variables about severity of liver cirrhosis were comparatively investigated according to SAI. There were no statistically significant differences identified between the two groups for Child-Pugh score, MELD Na and MELD scores. According to the research fulfilled by Galvez-Martinez et al.,<sup>[11]</sup> they found Child-Pugh score was higher in the SAI+ group when the SAI+ and SAI- groups were compared in terms of Child-Pugh staging. We think

the reason for this situation in our study is due to the lack of Child-Pugh Stage A patients and all patients comprising stage B and Stage C patients. In our study, comparison of MPV, CRP, ESR, WBC and PLT levels according to spontaneous ascites infection identified significant elevation in MPV, CRP, WBC and PLT counts independent of Child-Pugh stages in the SAI+ group, with no significant difference observed for ESR. Significant elevation of MPV, CRP, ESR and PLT between the 2 groups with SAI+ and SAI- is observed via the study of Amal et al.<sup>[12]</sup>

Additionally, they showed that MPV was the inflammatory marker parameter with highest performance with sensitivity of 73% and specificity of 85.7%. Additionally, another investigation identified a significant fall occurred in MPV values after treatment compared to before antibiotic treatment in SAI+ patients. The study by Elkafoury et al.<sup>[13]</sup> found that MPV, PLT, WBC, CRP and ESR were significantly higher in SAI+ patients compared to SAI-Patients. Suvak et al.,<sup>[14]</sup> similar to our study, found CRP, leukocyte count and mean platelet volume significantly increased in patients with spontaneous ascites infection; however, erythrocyte sedimentation rate was not identified to significantly increase in the SAI+ group compared to the SAI- group. They did not include platelet count in their comparison. Additionally, this study found no correlation between MPV levels and Child-Pugh stage of patients, similar to our study. It is observed via the study of Guler et al.<sup>[15,16]</sup> that CRP especially in SAI+ patients had greater importance for response to antibiotherapy and treatment surveillance rather than for diagnosis of spontaneous as-



**Figure 1.** ROC curve analysis for WBC and MPV.

WBC: White blood cells; MPV: Mean platelet volume.

cites infection. Galvez-Martinez et al.<sup>[11]</sup> investigated the correlation between systemic inflammatory response parameters and mean platelet volume in cirrhotic patients with and without spontaneous ascites infection and found significant elevation of the MPV and WBC counts in the SAI+ group, with no significant difference identified for PLT counts. In the study, they mentioned the difficulty of diagnosing inflammatory response and sepsis for KCS patients with ascites fluid infection due to not showing the classic symptoms and findings of sepsis.<sup>[17,18]</sup> A few of these that were mentioned included reduced PMNL count linked to hypersplenism, reduced basal heart rate due to hyperdynamic circulation syndrome, hyperventilation syndromes developing due to hepatic encephalopathy and imbalances in body temperature regulation. For these reasons, they discussed the acceptability of mean platelet volume as an important parameter increasing with the systemic inflammatory response.

In our study, we researched the differences in MPV and PDW in both SAI+ and SAI- groups and the correlation of these two variables between spontaneous ascites infection types, which were not previously investigated. Independent of the SAI+ group subgroups of CNNA, MNB and classic SBP, we observed significant increase in MPV compared to the SAI- group. PDW values showed similar features in the SAI- group compared with the SAI+ group independent of the subtypes. In our study, we think that the lack of significant differences in MPV and PDW levels between the 3 groups may be due to numerical inequality between spontaneous ascites infection subtype groups. Studies by Elkafoury et al.<sup>[13]</sup> compared 3 groups of SAI+, SAI- and healthy controls in terms of MPV and PDW and showed the SAI+ patient group had significant elevation of MPV compared to the other two groups, while PDW showed no significant difference. Abdelrazik et al.<sup>[19]</sup>

showed mean platelet volume was significantly elevated in patients with spontaneous ascites infection compared to cirrhosis patients without ascites infection and showed sensitivity rates of 95.9% and specificity of 91%. Platelet distribution width was not investigated. Mean platelet volume was shown to reflect inflammatory load and disease activity in a variety of diseases like rheumatoid arthritis, celiac disease, acute pancreatitis, acute ischemic stroke, inflammatory bowel diseases, myocardial infarctus, and Alzheimer disease. Though there are contradictory results, there is much evidence associating increased MPV with infection in the literature.<sup>[14,20]</sup> In cirrhosis patients, polymorphonuclear leukocytes and mean platelet volume are significant variables in the presence of ascites fluid infection identified in many studies, including our study. There is a need for studies performed with larger patient groups for identification of the correlation between MPV and PDW with other infective parameters in spontaneous ascites infection and to bring MPV to the fore as an inflammatory marker. We think to investigate the correlation between SAI subtypes and MPV, especially, will be beneficial in terms of predicting whether there is a correlation between severity of infection and mean platelet volume. In our study, ROC analysis found MPV of 10 and above and WBC of 6300 and above were associated with SAI in the group with spontaneous ascites infection. Suvak et al.<sup>[14]</sup> identified MPV of 8.45 and above and WBC of 8300 and above were significant for the SAI+ group with ROC analysis. The study by Galvez-Martinez et al.<sup>[11]</sup> found MPV as >8.3 and WBC as >8000 in the SAI+ group. Abdel-Razik et al.<sup>[19]</sup> identified MPV values of 8.77 and above were associated with infection in SAI+ patients.<sup>[17]</sup> The publication by Raina et al.<sup>[13]</sup> found the threshold for MPV in the SAI+ group was >9.8.

Due to the retrospective nature of our study, we did not

have chance to sufficiently monitor the diagnostic and treatment processes of patients and could not perform sufficient exclusion due to comorbid diseases, which may have caused more limitations compared to prospective studies. Additionally, we think numerical inequality between spontaneous ascites infection subtypes caused the lack of significant increase in mean platelet volume between these groups. New studies with similar rates for each SAI subtype and higher numbers of patients will allow the opportunity to research this topic more clearly.

## CONCLUSION

In decompensated liver cirrhosis patients developing spontaneous ascites infection, mean platelet volumes were significantly increased the modified Child-Turcotte-Pugh score, MELD and MELD Na scoring. Additionally, leukocyte count, platelet count and CRP values were increased in association with inflammation in the SAI+ group. Mean platelet volume is a parameter found on the hemogram which is routinely examined in the first stage for each patient. It is possible to use this test as a cheap, noninvasive and rapid method for early diagnosis and treatment to follow-up for spontaneous ascites infection. Studies performed with larger patient groups to investigate this relationship will strengthen the correlation between mean platelet volume and spontaneous ascites infection.

### Ethics Committee Approval

Approved by the local ethics committee (GOP Taksim Education and Research Hospital, 2017,12,27/65).

### Informed Consent

Retrospective study.

### Peer-review

Internally peer-reviewed.

### Authorship Contributions

Concept: B.B., E.S.B; Design: B.B., E.S.B; Supervision: O.M,R.O; Data: E.S.B; Analysis: B.B, E.S.B; Literature search: B.B; Writing: E.S.B, B.B; Critical Revision: B.B.

### Conflict of Interest

None declared.

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## Dekompanse Karaciğer Sirozlu Hastalarda Assit Enfeksiyonu Gelişiminin Ortalama Trombosit Hacmi ile İlişkisi

**Amaç:** Spontan assit enfeksiyonu (SAİ) dekompanse karaciğer sirozunun sık, önemli ve yüksek mortaliteye sahip komplikasyonlarından biridir. Ortalama trombosit hacmi (OTH), trombositlerin aktivitesini, uyarılmasını ve üretkenliğini gösteren bir parametredir. OTH'deki değişiklikler trombosit üretiminin önemli bir belirteci olup sepsis, tromboz hatta solunum sıkıntısı sendromu gibi birçok hastalığın şiddetindeki değişikliklerin de bir göstergesidir. Ortalama trombosit hacmi birçok hastalıkta basit, ucuz, hızlı ve güvenilir bir enflamatuvar gösterge olarak çalışılmıştır. Biz çalışmamızda spontan asit enfeksiyonu ile ortalama trombosit hacminin ilişkisini analiz etmeyi amaçladık.

**Gereç ve Yöntem:** Çalışmaya değişik etyolojilerdeki sirozu olan 98 hasta (42'si kadın, 56'sı erkek) alındı. Hastalar assit mayi kültürü pozitif ve/veya assit polimorfonükleer lökosit sayısı (PMNL)  $>250 \text{ mm}^3$  olan hastalar SAİ+ grup olarak, assit mayi kültüründe üreme olmayan ve assit PMNL sayısı  $<250 \text{ mm}^3$  olan hastalar SAİ- grup olarak iki ana gruba ayrıldı.

**Bulgular:** SAİ+ grupta 19'u kadın 33'ü erkek 52 hasta, SAİ- grupta 23'ü kadın 23'ü erkek 46 hasta mevcuttu. Spontan assit enfeksiyonu pozitif olan grupta spontan assit enfeksiyonu negatif gruba göre ortalama trombosit hacmi ( $p<0.001$ ), lökosit sayısı (WBC) ( $p<0.001$ ) düzeylerinin istatistiksel olarak anlamlı farklılık gösterdiği tespit edildi. SAİ pozitif olanlarda SAİ tipine göre ortalama trombosit hacmi ( $p=0.795$ ) ve trombosit dağılım yüzdesi ( $p=0.751$ ) düzeylerinin istatistiksel olarak anlamlı farklılık göstermediği tespit edildi. ( $p>0.05$ ).

**Sonuç:** Spontan assit enfeksiyonu gelişmiş olan dekompanse karaciğer sirozlu hastalarda ortalama trombosit hacmi anlamlı olarak yükselmektedir. Spontan assit enfeksiyonunun erken tanı ve tedavi takibinde ucuz, invaziv olmayan ve hızlı bir şekilde kullanımı mümkün olan bu testin kullanımı mümkündür.

**Anahtar Sözcükler:** Karaciğer sirozu; ortalama trombosit hacmi; spontan assit enfeksiyonu.