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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE OF HEMOPHILIA IN BAGHDAD, IRAQ, 2016

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Background: Hemophilia is an X-linked bleeding disorder that mainly affects males. Globally, there are about 400,000 people with hemophilia; only 25% of them receive adequate treatment. In developed countries, life expectancy of hemophilia patients is more than that in developing countries. This study was conducted to describe epidemiological characteristics and estimate prevalence, incidence, and their trends among hemophilia patients in Baghdad, Iraq, 2007-2016.

Methods: In this cross sectional study we conducted a desk review of the records of all hemophilia patients resided in Baghdad and registered in the four hemophilia treatment center during 2007-2016. Baghdad population data was obtained from Ministry of Planning.

Results: The total number of the registered hemophilia patients resided in Baghdad was 639. The prevalence of hemophilia had increased from 3.6/100,000 population in 2007 to 7.9/100,000 population in 2016. Also, the incidence had increased from 8.4/100,000 live births in 2007 to 16.3/100,000 live births

in 2016. Only one death was reported among the patients in 2016. Hemophilia A constituted 74.6% with a prevalence of 7.9/100,000 population and the remaining had hemophilia B with a prevalence of 2.0/100,000 population. The mean age of all hemophilia patients was 19.3 ± 14 years, and only 22.7% were ≥ 30 years old. Severe hemophilia represented 63.4%. About 50% of the patients descended from consanguineous marriages and 69.0% had positive family history of hemophilia. The percentage of patients who attended university was 23.6% and that of patients who did not attend school or were illiterates was 7.6%. Among patients who were ≥ 18 years; more than half of them (59.6%) were married, and 34.2% of them were unemployed. Target joints were found among 45.8% of patients and 28% were on prophylactic therapy.

Conclusions: The prevalence and incidence of hemophilia in Baghdad was doubled in 10 years' period. We recommended establishing an electronic National Registry of Hemophilia and enhancing universal coverage with prophylactic treatment.

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