

Abstract

In a prospective study carried out, over a period of 3 months at Sri Jayawardhanapura hospital, 96 of 3777 patients acquired urinary tract infections (defined as $\geq 10^5$ Colony forming units per ml), and it showed an incidence of 2.5% (25.4 per 1000 population). Of 96 patients, 74 were community acquired and 22 nosocomial. *Escherichia coli* was the predominant organism in both categories (63.5 and 50 % respectively). Gram negative bacilli were commonly isolated from hospital acquired patients, whereas Gram positive cocci from community acquired patients were relatively common compared to nosocomial group. Among isolates, 86% were sensitive to norfloxacin, 74% to gentamicin, 56% to nalidixic acid, and lower sensitivity proportions were for co-trimoxazole (38%), nitrofurantoin (30%), cephradine (29%) and ampicillin (18%). Findings of the study indicate that norfloxacin perhaps is a better choice, to be safely used for empirical therapy, and for possible increasing resistance to commonly use other urinary antibiotics.