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- Authors:** Names of all authors should be provided. Presenting author's name should be in bold and underlined. Use Times New Roman, 12 points.
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MODEL ABSTRACT FORMAT

Detection of rotavirus in children hospitalized with acute gastroenteritis in Mangaluru

Mohammed Aisha¹, Vijaya Shenoy², Indrani Karunasagar¹ **Praveen Rai**¹

¹Nitte University Centre for Science Education and Research, Nitte University, Deralakatte, Mangaluru, Karnataka, India-575018

²Department of Paediatrics, K.S. Hegde Medical Academy, Nitte University, Deralakatte, Mangaluru, Karnataka, India-575018

Presenting author's email: raiprav@nitte.edu.in

Rotaviruses are important cause of severe acute gastroenteritis in infants and young children globally. It is estimated that in India, 30% of the hospitalizations and 22% of the deaths are occur due to rotaviral infections. The incidence of rotaviral infection among young children of Mangaluru has been reported earlier but there is a paucity of comprehensive data on the rotaviral strain circulating in this region. Therefore, the aim of this study was to determine the genotype which is prevalent to this region. Fecal samples were collected from children admitted with acute gastroenteritis to the K. S Hegde Hospital, Mangalore. They were screened for rotavirus by Fecal Rotavirus Antigen Rapid Test Kit. The presence of virus was further confirmed by RT-PCR using VP6 gene specific primer pairs. The G and P genotyping of positive samples was performed by multiplex RT-PCR and nucleotide sequencing of VP7 and VP4 genes done. Of 15 fecal samples screened, 2 were positive for virus by both rapid test kit and RT-PCR. Both samples were positive for the combination of two genotypes: G1P[8] and G3P[8]. G1P[8] is the most commonly found in other parts of the world. The present study provides molecular evidence for the genetic diversity of the circulating rotaviruses in Mangaluru. There is a need for continuous monitoring of rotavirus affecting children and such studies will be useful in evaluating the efficacy of vaccine strains used presently.