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Abstract

Healthcare-associated conjunctivitis (HAC) is associated with serious ophthalmic complications in newborns, LQFOXGLQJ EOLQGQHVV 7KLV \H DU UHWURVSHFWLYH GHVFULSWLYH VWXG\ FR most common bacteria associated with her HAC in neonates from Middle East tertiary care hospitals. Inclusion criteria ZHUH GH ; QHG EDVHG RQ WKH &HQWHUV IRU 'LVH DVH &RQWURO DQG 3UHYHQWLRQ in newborns. When HAC was clinically suspected, conjunctival swabs were obtained from neonates and sent to the microbiology laboratory according to standard protocols. Univariate analysis was performed on the included samples. A total of 79 cases met the inclusion criteria and were retrospectively reviewed. Descriptive analysis showed that *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* was the major cause of HAC, accounting for 25% (20 cases), Approximately 9% of analyzed cases were positive for *S. aureus*. Oral gastric feeding was the most common factor (94%) associated with HAC, followed by respiratory distress syndrome (IBS) and prematurity in 70% and 64% of cases, respectively. In summary, HAC is a worrying health problem, commonly caused by bacteria, including Gram-negative bacteria. Therefore, physician

di cult to culture (e.g., staphylococcal coagulase-negative). However, this report is one of the few published in our region and provides insight