

liver function studies are still not possible in any institutions outside Dacca. Needle biopsy has not yet gained the popularity it deserves. It is therefore not unlikely that many cases are missed, because of lack of suspicion.

The cases reported in this paper were all clinically suspected to be suffering from primary carcinoma of the liver. Two of the cases where biopsy could be done, the diagnosis was confirmed.

In the remaining cases the laboratory findings were in conformity with the clinical diagnosis.

The purpose of this communication is to locate awareness about a disease which has not so far been reported from East Pakistan.

### 13. **Some Observations on Deaths Attributed to Supernatural Causes.**

*Dr. A.K.M. Alauddin Chowdhury*

*Dr. W.M. McCormack*

In the Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory's vaccine field trial area in Matlab Thana, Comilla district, which has a population of about 1,12,000, deaths of 101 were attributed to supernatural causes by the families of the deceased, during a one-year period, out of a total of 1,679 deaths.

These 101 deaths were studied and it was shown that most occurred in children under 1 year of age. It was also noted that these deaths were usually not associated with recognisable symptoms. There was no sex difference and the seasonal pattern was the same as for deaths in the general population.

### 14. **Common Nutritional Disorders in East Pakistan.**

*Dr. M.M. Rahman*

The importance of nutritional diseases hardly needs any emphasis in a poor country like East Pakistan. Nobody is far from the stark reality of poverty in our population and the misery it causes in the form of various nutritional disorders. It is even more true with the doctors who see cases of malnutrition in its various forms daily. However, not all cases of malnutrition are due to poverty alone. A considerable number are caused by other factors such as bad food habits, ignorance, systemic diseases and special circumstances with high nutritional demands such as in rapid growth in children and during pregnancy and lactation in women.

The paper deals with the common and important nutritional diseases prevalent in this part of the world. The recently published report of the nutrition survey of 1964 carried out in East Pakistan has clearly shown that calorie, protein, vitamin A, riboflavin and few other deficiencies are extremely common in our apparently "healthy" population. All these disorders will be illustrated with the help of coloured slides. It is hoped that the presentation will help in the proper diagnosis and treatment of the common nutritional disorders as found to occur in East Pakistan.



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