

Thus information contained in the ward registry was adopted, focusing on demographic information like age of first diagnosis, residence, types and sex. The presenting features of 25 patients were obtained from their medical records.

Statistical analysis

SPSS, version 16, was used for data input and analysis. Discrete variables presented as numbers and percentages and continuous variables presented as Median and mean \pm SD (standard deviation). Chi square test for independence was used to test the significance of association between discrete variables. Mann-Whitney test for two independent samples was used to test the significance in observed difference in mean of continuous variables; this test was used as the age was shown to have extreme values with significant departure from normality according to Semivnov-Kolmogorov test for the assumption of normality. Findings with P value less than 0.05 were considered significant.

Results

Out of the ninety patients only 69 were included in the study, as the rest were excluded according to the exclusion criteria mentioned in the methodology. Among each 1000 patients admitted to the Children Welfare Teaching Hospital during the period of study, 1.8 patients presented with stroke, and the Annual hospital frequency rate of stroke /100,000 was 54.2 (Table 1).

Among the 69 patients; 49 were boys (71%) and 20 were girls (29%). Their ages ranged from 1-168 months with a mean of 25.8 months \pm 37.2 SD and a median age of 10 months. Girls tend to be younger than boys yet the differences were statistically not significant (Table 2).

Table 1. Patients admitted to General Pediatric Wards during the study period

Variables	No.
Total admissions	37457
Total cases of stroke	69
Stroke / 1000 admissions	1.8
Annual hospital frequency rate of stroke /100000	54.2

Table 2. Distribution of the study group by age at first diagnosis (in months) and gender*

Age in months	Males (49)	Females (20)	Total (69)
Range	1-168	1-120	1-168
Mean \pm SD	28.3 \pm 40.5	19.8 \pm 27.4	25.8 \pm 37.2
Median	10	4	10

Patients with stroke were classified into; ischemic stroke (32 patients (46%), hemorrhagic Stroke (29 patients (42%)) and Cerebral Venous Thrombosis (CVT) (8 patients (12%)) as shown in Figure 1. Cerebral venous thrombosis and arterial ischemic stroke can be included under the topic of ischemic stroke.

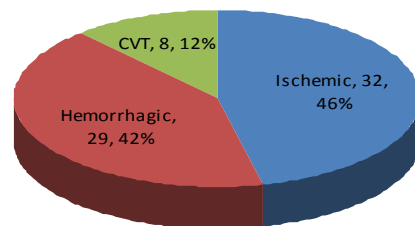


Figure 1. Distribution of the study group by type of stroke

Table 3 showed the distribution of the study group by type of stroke and gender. Although boys dominated girls in both ischemic stroke (72.5%) and hemorrhagic type (69%), yet the association was statistically not significant.