

Brucellosis is a considerable public health problem in the Indian subcontinent, owing to the predominant agrarian population. The varied prevalence noted in these studies might be attributed to different diagnostic modalities employed. A recent knowledge, attitude and practice study delineating risk factors for brucellosis has revealed that none of the farmers interviewed had any awareness about the infection, modes of transmission and modalities to prevent it [10], thereby raising the risk of acquisition of infection. The disease follows a chronic course with formation of granulomas further infecting multiple organs, terminating in an array of clinical presentation. Humans are the accidental hosts for this infection and acquire infection directly via contact with infected animals or indirectly through vehicles like milk, genital discharge and aborted products from the infected animals. Few studies have delineated brucellosis as a significant etiological agent implicated in pyrexia of unknown origin, varying from 0.8 to 6.8% [18,19]. Few other strains isolated from marine mammals are categorized into 'nomen species' [11,12].