INTRODUCTION

AND

AIM OF THE WORK

Bacterial meningitis is a major cause of mortality and morbidity in tropical countries ***(Stephen and Anthony, 1991).*** The out come of the disease depends mainly on early diagnosis and prompt treatment ***(Overturf and Hoeprich, 1983).*** The conventional method of diagnosis of bacterial meningitis using bacterial cultures is slow and can be misinterpreted if antibiotic treatment is started before sample collection ***(Lewis, 1974).***

Also, ***DeBeer et al. (1984)*** stated that the aetiological diagnosis of meningitis is still a problem in clinical practice as cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), chemical analysis and cellular changes often overlap. That is why, a rapid and conclusive method for early detection of the causative organism of meningitis is urgently needed ***(Jorgenson and Lee, 1978).*** ***Henter et al. (1993)*** found that serum lipid pattern in children with bacterial meningitis is altered, while ***McCallum et al. (1983)*** stated that extremely high concentrations of plasma 17-OH corticosteriods may develop during gram negative septicaemia or prior to death in patients with other severe acute infections.

Aim of the Work :

In this study serum level of triglycride, cholesterol, low density lipoprotein (LDL), High Density Lipoprotein (HDL) will be measured on admission and after cure.Also hormonal assay, including, thyroid