

ABSTRACT FORM

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Title : (CAPITAL LETTERS)
ROLE OF IMMUNOPROPHYLAXIS IN POST TRANSFUSION HEPATITIS

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Abstract : HBV infection still remains to be the important cause of post-transfusion hepatitis (PTH) in developing countries. A prospective study at AIIMS, revealed PTH in 16.6% of blood recipients and HBV infection was responsible for 66% of the cases. In a retrospective study at AIIMS, a high carrier rate of HBV in 12.3 % and evidence of HBV exposure in 38.4% was documented among blood recipients. Immunoglobulins have been tried in prevention of PTH (NANB). The present study was carried out to assess the efficacy of ISG, ISG-high titre (HT) and HBIG in preventing PTH in blood recipients at AIIMS. 54 blood recipients have been registered for the study. 21 of these have completed six months of follow up. None developed HBsAg positivity. Two developed rising titres of anti-HBs indicating HBV infection without clinical or anicteric hepatitis. One of them received ISG and other one ISG-HT. Three patients developed mild anicteric PTH (NANB) with complete recovery (two of these had received HBIG). Anti-HBs was detected in 11 patients at the end of 6 months follow up which was presumed to be because of passive transfer of Anti-HBs from immunoglobulins or a vaccine effect from very low titre HBsAg in the donor blood or administered immunoglobulins. The follow up of remaining cases is continuing. The preliminary data of the 21 cases however suggest the possibility of prevention of PTH due to HBV by ISG, ISG-HT and HBIG. ISG being low cost may be mainly used and evaluated further.

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