

Spectrum of Hepatitis A Virus Infection in India

Abstract

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Abstract

This Study was carried out to find out the role of HAV infection in sporadic acute hepatitis (Ah), fulminant hepatic failure FHF, subacute hepatic failure (SAHF) and epidemic hepatitis. asymptomatic Children were also included in the study to find out prevalence of subclinical infection. diagnosis was confirmed on standard criteria.

One hundred adults and 27 children with Ah, 134 patients with FHF, 52 patients with SAHF, 484 patients from epidemics and 70 healthy children were tested for HAV infection . The diagnosis hepatitis A was established by a positive IgM anti HA which was tested by ELISA or RIA .

HAV infection was present in 14% of adults and 67% of children with Ah, 6% of FHF and 2% of SAHF. Only one of eight epidemic was caused by HA V. 30% asymptomatic children had presence of IgM anit-HAV.

The study concludes that HAV infection predominantly involves paediatric population in sporadic epidemic and subclinical forms. A small proportion of adults suffer from this infection which may Evan result into complication like FHF and SAHF in a few.