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Abstracts

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Abstract

Study describes the serological status of HBV- Markers in prostitutes and their contribution in the overall prevalence of HBV-Infection in India. A total number of 635 sera samples from professional prostitutes operating in the Red Light area of Delhi and in the age group of 18-40 years were screened for HBsAg. HBsAg Positive sera were further tested for HBeAg, a marker of active HBV-replication. 203 of total 635 sera were also analysed for anti HBS. All these tests were performed by using EIA- Kits from Abbotts (USA). The Results fo this study showed the presence of HBsAg in 23 of 635 (3.67%), HBsAg in 8 of 23 HbsAg seropositive (34.7%) and anti- HBs in 203 (18.7%) prostitutes. All prostitutes had normal liver function tests and were free of any clinical symptoms of liver disease. A comparison of HBV- marker in prostitutes with those in normal population ^{2,3} shows no significant difference this indicates that prostitutes as such may not pose any additional danger of transmitting HBV- Infection in Delhi.