

Community studies on hepatitis B in Rajahmundry town of Andhra Pradesh, India, 1997-8 unnecessary therapeutic injections are a major risk factor

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Community studies on hepatitis B in Rajahmundry town of Andhra Pradesh, India, 1997-8 unnecessary therapeutic injections are a major risk factor

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Abstract

In Rajahmundry town in India, 234 community cases of jaundice were interviewed for risk factors of viral hepatitis B and tested for markers of hepatitis AE, respectively. The aetiology of the remaining 60% (50/83) of cases of jaundice could not be established. Thirty-one percent (26/83) were already positive for anti-HBc before they developed jaundice. History of therapeutic injections before the onset of jaundice was significantly higher in cases of hepatitis B ($P = 0.01$) or B82%) and were administered by both qualified and unqualified doctors.

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