

# **Hepatitis E Virus: Another Addition to the Existing Alphabet of Human Hepatitis Viruses**

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## **Hepatitis E Virus: Another Addition to the Existing Alphabet of Human Hepatitis Viruses**

Mohammad Sultan Khuroo, MD, DM

Department of Medicine, Section of Gastroenterology, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre, Riyadh.

Correspondence: Dr. Khuroo: Department of Medicine. MBC-46. King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre. P.O. Box 3354, Riyadh 11211, Saudi Arabia.

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## **Abstract**

Hepatitis E virus is a recent addition to the family of human hepatitis viruses. The author presents a review of the disease and its global seroprevalence, and an overview of the studies which led to the identification of the etiological agent—the hepatitis E virus. It is the author's firm belief that hepatitis E is much more widespread than depicted by current available data. The disease is of significance in the Middle East, in view of the large expatriate population from the endemic areas and travel to and from such regions. Epidemiological lessons lead to the presumption that the disease must significantly affect the health of both the native and expatriate populations of this region, but has not yet been thoroughly looked into. Moreover, hepatitis E is a potential danger, especially when there are large gatherings of people from endemic regions and from those regions of the world where populations have never been exposed to the disease and are thus susceptible. This is another hepatitis virus for health authorities and health care planners to watch for and keep in mind when planning health care activities.

## **Reference**

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