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Status of Hepatitis A infection: A three year study in a tertiary care hospital of Uttarakhand, India.

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Abstract:

Background: Acute viral hepatitis (AVH) is a major public health problem and an important cause of morbidity and mortality. Amongst various Hepatitis viral infections, Hepatitis A virus is known to be the commonest cause of AVH.

Objective: The objective of the present study was to determine the prevalence of hepatitis A virus (HAV) in the population attending our tertiary care hospital and clinically diagnosed as hepatitis.

Method: This prospective cross-sectional study was carried out over a period of three years (2015 to 2017). Serum was separated and tests were run on miniVIDAS and VIDAS (bioMerieux, France) for the detection of anti-HAV IgM. Patients of both genders from all age groups were included in this study.

Results: A total of 1048 serum samples were tested over a period of three years. Throughout the three year study period it was observed that the maximum cases fell into the age groups of 20-30 years rather than in 0-10 years and 11-20 years.

Conclusion: Hepatitis A, because of epidemiological shift, has now been diagnosed more in teenagers and adults with more severe symptoms that are similar to other viral hepatitis, so the diagnosis must be confirmed by serological testing for the detection of IgM.

Key words: Hepatitis A, Anti-HAV IgM, viral hepatitis.

Reference

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