

Evidence of ongoing virus multiplication in type B fulminant hepatitis

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Evidence of ongoing virus multiplication in type B fulminant hepatitis

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Abstract

The presence of HBeAg- and HBV-specific DNA-polymerase (DNA-P) activity—regarded as markers of HBV multiplication—were studied in 40 patients with fulminant hepatitis B within 1-5 days of the onset of hepatic encephalopathy. HBeAg and DNA-P were detected in three (7 %) and 21 (51%) of the patients respectively. Only three (7%) were positive for anti-HBs. DNA-P activity was present in 38.1 % even 10 days after the appearance of icterus. Present findings confirm an ongoing HBV multiplication in about half of the patients of fulminant hepatitis B.

Keywords: DNA-polymerase activity, fulminant hepatitis B, hepatitis B, hepatitis B_e Antigen, hepatitis B virus

Reference

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