

Age-Specific Prevalence of Antibodies to Hepatitis A and E Viruses in Pune, India, 1982 and 1992

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Age-Specific Prevalence of Antibodies to Hepatitis A and E Viruses in Pune, India, 1982 and 1992

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Abstract

The age-specific seroprevalence of antibody to hepatitis A virus (HAV) and antibody to hepatitis E virus (HEV) were studied in persons in Pune, India, where both viruses are endemic. The data showed that HAV infected the majority of persons by age 3 years and virtually 100% by late childhood. In contrast, infection with HEV was rare in children and did not reach peak prevalence (33%-40%) until early adulthood. The reason for the differences in infection rates between HAV and HEV is not known. Age-specific antibody patterns in serum samples obtained 10 years apart show that neither HAV nor HEV has diminished in medical importance in this Indian community.

References

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