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Maulana Azad Medical College, Bahadurshah ZafarMarg, New Delhi 110002,India K. DAS, A.JAIN, R. K. GUPTA,P. KAR Department of Medicine Correspondence to P. KAR,DIIIM-2755,Netaji Nagar, New Delhi 110023,India

Abstract

Background. In India, a possible decrease in the prevalence of anti-HA V (hepatitis A virus) antibodies in adults has increased their susceptibility to HAV infection. We evaluated the immunogenicity and reactogenicity of an inactivated hepatitis A vaccine administered in a 3-injection protocol.

Methods. Thirty-five healthy adult volunteers, seronegative for anti-HAY IgG, were administered 720 ELISA units/ml of the inactivated hepatitis A vaccine intramuscularly at days 0, 30 and 180. Anti-HA V IgG was determined at days 30, 60, 90 and 180 to assess the efficacy of the vaccine and adverse reactions were noted to evaluate its reactogenicity.

Results. The mean (SO) age of the volunteers was 33.1 (12.3) years and the man:woman ratio was 19: 16. An overall seroprotection of 37.2% (13/35) was obtained at day 30, 57.1 % (20/35) at day 60 and 85.7% (30/35) at day 90. By day 180, all the vaccinees (35/35; 100%) achieved protective seroconversion. The vaccine in general was well tolerated and no serious side-effects were observed. Only 8.6% (3/35) of subjects developed minor self-resolving adverse reactions such as local pain, erythema and/or low-grade fever.

Conclusions. The inactivated hepatitis A vaccine in a three injection protocol (0, 30 and 120 days) is safe, well tolerated and highly immunogenic in adult Indian subjects.

References

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