

Immunogenicity and Efficacy of Hepatitis B Vaccination in Indian Chronic Renal Failure Patients on Hemodialysis and After Renal Transplantation

Cited in

Letter: Nephron 1996;74:424-425

Immunogenicity and Efficacy of Hepatitis B Vaccination in Indian Chronic Renal Failure Patients on Hemodialysis and After Renal Transplantation

G. Krishnamurthy^a Vijay Kher^b Sita Naik^a

Departments of Immunology^a and Nephrology^b. Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India

Correspondence: Prof. Dr. Sita Naik., Department of Immunology, Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Raebareilly Road, Lucknow 226 014 (UP) (India)

Dear Sir,

The incidence of Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is high among hemodialysis (HD) patients. The HBV vaccines in chronic renal failure (CRF) have been shown to stimulate antibody response only in 50-60% of patients [1], It is not only the immune response to hepatitis B vaccine which is low in HD patients, but also to other antigens like tetanus and diphtheria toxoids [2], Even among those who respond to these antigens, the response is usually transient. In developing countries like India, where the HBV carrier rate continues to be in the range of 0.9- 4% (3). fresh infection within dialysis units is a matter of concern. Since reasons for the low response rate to vaccine among CRF patients is ill understood and has been attributed to uremia [4], it is expected that the defect should get corrected after renal trans- plantation. In this study, we have investigated immune response to HBV vaccine. HBV infection rate among vaccinated CRF patients and the anti-HBs response to booster dose of vaccine in low responders following renal transplantation.

Reference

Patwari SI. Irshad M. Gandhi BM, Joshi YK. Nundy S. Tandon B: Increasing HBV reservoir by post-transfusion HBV infection in India. Indian J Med Res 1986;84:227-230.