



HCV IS A CHALLENGE FOR PAKISTAN

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Abstract:

Among infectious diseases the Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) is a significant global health problem and rapidly emerging in developing countries including Pakistan. The HCV was isolated in 1989. The HCV is a blood born pathogen and member of the Flaviviridae. The HCV is positive sense single strand RNA enveloped virus.

KEYWORDS:

Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)

INTRODUCTION

The HCV cause the liver cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) ^(1,2,3,4). Approximately 3.3% population of the world is infected with HCV and three to four million individuals are diagnosed as new cases every year. In Europe the ratio of HCV is lower 1.03%, while highest in Africa 5.3%. The 10 % Pakistani population is infected with HCV and represent a major threat to the health of population ^(5,6,7,8). The common symptom of the HCV are jaundice, dark urine, pale faces, nausea, vomiting, malaise, fatigue and right upper quadrant abdominal pain ⁽⁹⁾. The HCV is transmitted through repeated blood transfusions or blood products, hemodialysis patients, intravenous drug abusers, prisoners, needles, stick, syringes, sharps injuries, sharing razors during shaving, from infected mother to baby and sexual transmission. Approximately 70% cases were acquired in the hospitals in Pakistan ^(10,6,7).

Methodology

The aim of this article is to aware the peoples and also inform the Government authority to focus on the control of the infectious diseases like HCV etc. The help was taken in the preparation of this article from various published literatures have been reviewed from international and national journals, local newspapers and books downloaded from the internet. Total 15 articles were studied and the help was taken from the 11 articles.

Conclusions

Different study was conducted on the HCV show variation of occurrence in different area. The HCV is the daises of poverty. In Pakistan more than 75% population are living below the line of poverty. This is alarming to health of Pakistani population. The unavailability of health facility especially in the rural area of Pakistan, expensive therapy, lack of awareness and education regarding the disease, no proper waste management in the hospital, syringes, no safe blood transfusion etc are those factors which lead to increase the number of cases of HCV. So the Government of Pakistan needs to focus on the health issue and need to launch the special program for the control of the HCV and also educate the public regarding this disease. If the proper measurements are not taken so the Pakistan will be on the top of those countries which have high

burden of HCV.

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