

Prevalence of Viral Markers for Hepatitis B and C in Healthy Volunteer Blood Donors in Fasa Region, South Iran

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Background: There are only a few published reports regarding the prevalence of hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus in Iranian blood donors. We determined the prevalence rate of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and anti-hepatitis C virus antibodies (anti-HCV) among 25491 healthy voluntary blood donors in Blood Transfusion Center of Fasa, Fars Province, Islamic Republic of Iran.

Material and method: Written records of the Blood Transfusion Center were reviewed, including charts of all risk free potential altruistic donors from January 2002 to June 2007 who had determined to have hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) or hepatitis C antibodies (anti-HCV).

Results: Of the 25491 healthy donors, 52.8% were male and 47.2% female. The majority of the samples were young people. Of the 25491 blood donations screened, 1.3% (331) had HBsAg detected with 0.9% (229) confirmed by confirmatory test (Western blot). Anti HCV was positive in 0.7% (178) with 0.55% (140) confirmed. Hepatitis B and C co-infection was common. The individuals with positive HCV antibodies were more likely to have positive HBsAg. The annual prevalence of HBsAg gradually decreased from 2.5% in 2002 to 0.6% in 2007. The seroprevalence of HCV antibody gradually decreased from 1.05% in 2002, to 0.3% in 2007

Discussion and conclusion: We compared our results with those of other studies and conclude that the prevalence rate of HBsAg in our area has decreased in the last 3 decades; from being an area of high prevalence, it is now one with moderate-to-low prevalence. Since there are few reports on the seroepidemiology of hepatitis C in the Islamic Republic of Iran in recent decades, we could not assess the changes in prevalence of hepatitis C.

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Profile of Animal Bite Patients Attending Anti-Rabies Centers in Delhi

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Keywords: Species of animal bite; Practices; Health care facilities

Background: Rabies continuous to be major Public health problem in India. An estimated 20,000 death and about 17 million animal bites occurs annually. This project was taken to study the profile of animal bite cases attending

Method: A cross-sectional study was conducted in the antirabies center of Hindu Rao Hospital and Infectious Diseases Hospital in Delhi from cases attending to receive post exposure immunization during August 2007 to November 2007. A total 600 cases were interviewed of all age groups and both sexes. Classification of animal bite for post exposure prophylaxis was as per WHO recommendation. Data was analyzed by using Epi-info software/spread sheet.

Results: Of 600 cases, 88.5% dog bite followed by 8.33% monkey bite, cat bite 2% & rat bite 0.83%. 74.16% were male. Male to female ratio was 3:1.40% children were less than 15 years age groups. Students were 40.5% followed by labour 30.33%. Most of cases 48% occur in evening. Common site of bite was on lower limb 70%, bite on face was most common in children. Cat III exposure was 97.33%. Only 28% cases completed advised regime. 75% dog alive & only 2% dead within ten days after bite to human being. 43% cases reported within 24 hours after bite.

Conclusion: The study shows principle biting animal was dog followed by monkey, cat & rat. Bite was most common in children because of fondness of animal. Majority had faith in traditional method of treatment. In spite of facilities available only few cases turn up in ARC to receive full course of vaccine. Community needs health education regarding the first aid, the importance of completing the vaccine course advised & taking treatment immediately.

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HBV Markers in Central of Iran

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Keywords: HBs Ag; HBs Ab; Hbc Ab; Seroepidemiology; Isfahan

Introduction: Hepatitis B is assumed as the most frequent causes of chronic hepatitis and cirrhosis in Iran. As to establish perfect preventive strategies, updating data of prevalences are needed, this study was carried on to obtain hepatitis B seroprevalence in Isfahan province in 2006.

Methods: In a cross sectional study, 816 subjects over 6 years old from 32 urban and 9 rural areas of Isfahan province in 2006 using systematic multi stage cluster sampling method were selected. Demographic data, HBV risk factors and blood samples were collected and HBs Ag, HBs Ab and Hbc Ab were measured by ELISA method. Chi-square, odds Ratio (95% CIs) and multi stage logistic regression were used for statistical analysis and $P < 0.05$ was considered significant.

Results: The subjects of this study included 428 female (52.5%) and 388 male (47.5%). Of the 816 participants, 10 (1.3%) were positive for HBs Ag, 109 (13.4%) for HBs Ag, 33 (4.2%) for Hbc Ab and 11 (1.3%) for both HBs Ab and Hbc Ab.

HBs Ag seropositive rate had a range from 0 in 6–9 years old to 1.9% in 40–49 years old age groups. The most frequent