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67.007

A Study of Anxiety Status and Influencing Factors on Patients with Chronic Hepatitis B

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Background: Chronic hepatitis B is a public health problem in China, till to now few data are available to define psychological state of those patients, which is extremely important to provide psychological support for them. The aim of the study was to explore the anxiety status and influencing factors in patients with chronic hepatitis B for the purpose of providing theoretical evidences to psychological nursing.

Methods: Sixty-seven patients with chronic hepatitis B from the First Affiliated Hospital of Medical College of Xi’an JiaoTong University from June to December in 2006 were enrolled to complete State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI) questionnaire and questionnaire of own designing; the items include name, sex, age, occupation, course of disease, economic position, marital status and education.

Result: Statistic analysis indicated that state anxiety and trait anxiety of patients with chronic hepatitis B show significant increasing in comparison with Chinese average level, SA: 42.70 ± 10.32, the male SA: 42.17 ± 10.27 (P = 0.04), the female SA: 44.05 ± 10.33 (P = 0.02); TA: 44.03 ± 9.17, the male TA: 43.81 ± 8.61 (P = 0.028), the female TA: 46.06 ± 8.79 (P = 0.02). Factors associated with SA include age (P = 0.036), occupation (P = 0.034), economic position (P = 0.000), level of received education (P = 0.001); factors associated with TA include marital status (P = 0.023), economic position (P = 0.000), level of received education (P = 0.044).

Conclusion: SA and TA are very widespread in clinic hepatitis B patients, the common factors include age, occupation, economic position, level of received education, marital status. It is necessary for nurses to know about patients’ psychological status and provide targeted care to them according to influencing factors.

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Genotype Distribution in Chronic Hepatitis C Patients in Greece

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Background: Hepatitis C virus (HCV) genotypes and subtypes are distributed differently in different parts of the world. HCV genotype information is important because it can be used as a predictor of treatment response and outcome. In this study we evaluated the genotypes of patients with HCV in a Greek hospital.

Methods: Specimens from 61 patients (35 males and 26 females) with HCV were tested. HCV RNA viral load was determined by PCR (Cobas Amplicor™ HCV Monitor v2.0, Roche Molecular Diagnostics). HCV genotype and subtype were determined by direct sequencing of the 5’ NC gene fragment (Trugene™ HCV 5’ NC Genotyping Kit, Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics).

Results: Genotype 1 was present in 21 patients with most common subtype 1b (16/21), while genotype 3 was present in 24 patients with most common subtype 3a (23/24). Genotype 2 was present in 8 patients, genotype 4 in 7 and genotype 5 in 1. In males genotype 3 was the most frequent (19/35), while in females genotype 1 (13/26). Genotype 3 was the most frequent (43%) in patients younger than 50 years, while genotype 1 was the most frequent (47%) in those older than 50 years. Twenty-one patients had a baseline high viral load (above 800,000 IU/ml): six with genotype 1b, two with 1a, five with 2, seven with 3a and one with genotype 4. High baseline viral load was observed in 37% of patients aged less than 50 years and 42% aged over 50 years.

Conclusion: Genotypes 1 and 3 had almost equal distribution and represent together 73% among the study population. Genotype 1 was more frequent in older patients and genotype 3 among younger patients.

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examined the association between the immune status and the psychological (perceived) stress in patients with chronic hepatitis B, and the involvement of cortisol.

Methods: Forty patients with chronic hepatitis B completed the Perceived Stress Scale-14 (PSS-14) and State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI-Form). These two scales are self-report questionnaires to measure psychological stress, state anxiety and trait anxiety. We measured two types of T cell-derived cytokines level (IL-10 and IFN) and plasma cortisol. Correlation analysis was employed to explore the relationship among psychological scores, cortisol and cytokine level.

Results: Our results show that the level of IL-10 was related to psychological stress (P < 0.03), state anxiety (P < 0.01) and trait anxiety (P < 0.03). No correlations were found between psychological stress and IFN-γ levels. Also no correlations were developed between cortisol and psychological stress, anxiety, IL-10, and IFN-γ.

Conclusion: From the results, it can be concluded that psychological stress depresses the immune reaction in patients with chronic hepatitis B, which is disadvantage of HBV r e solve. Those patients were in great need of psychological support. Cortisol plays little role between psychological stress and immune state in patient with hepatisis B.

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Association Between HLA-A, B, DRB1 Alleles and Susceptibility or Resistance to Chronic Hepatitis B

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Objective: Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection is a major public health problem worldwide. The mechanism of susceptibility to chronic persistent HBV infection is not well clarified, while the outcome of HBV infection mainly depends on the host immune response. Different HLA class I and II alleles may play roles in HBV infection outcome. In this study, the association between HBV infection and HLA alleles was studied.

Methods: HLA-A, B and DRB1 alleles in 33 patients with chronic hepatitis B and 31 healthy carriers collapsed as persistent group, and 30 subjects who had spontaneously recovered from HBV infection were analyzed by using PCR-sequence specific primer (PCR-SSP) technique

Results: The frequency of HLA-A*33 allele was higher in persistent group than recovered group (P < 0.03). The frequency of B*52 allele was higher in CHB patients than healthy carriers (P < 0.05).

Conclusion: HLA-A*33 was related with susceptibility and HLA-DRB1*13 was related with protection against persistency of hepatitis B. Our survey also showed that the frequency of B*52 allele was higher in CHB patients than healthy carriers which further confirmed the role of HLA alleles in clinical presentations of HBV infection. The above results suggest that host HLA class I and II alleles are important factors in determination of the outcome of HBV infection.

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Long Term Immune Response to Hepatitis B Vaccine in Haemodialysis Patients

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Objective: Hepatitis B (HB) vaccine is effective in producing protection against HB virus infection in hemodialysis (HD) patients, but the persistence of immunity remains largely unknown. In this study we aimed to evaluate the persistence of hepatitis B vaccine immunity in HD patients.

Methods: In this study we had followed 54 HD patients up to 1 year after primary hepatitis B vaccination [four doses vaccination schedule 40 μg injections intramuscularly in the deltoid muscle at 0,1,2,6 months] to evaluate the persistence of immunity [as indicated by serum levels of antibody to hepatitis B surface antigen (anti-HBs) higher than or equal to 10 IU/l].

Results: At 1 year after vaccination, 18.18% of patients had lost their anti-HBs (transient responders) while 81.82% of them had detectable antibody in the serum (persistent responders). From 81.82% of persistent responders 11.5% and 88.5% were weak and high responders respectively. There was no significant difference between persistent and transient responders regarding age, sex and nutritional factors (serum albumin, triglycerides, and cholesterol), hemoglobin, parathyroid hormone (PTH), fasting blood sugar (FBS), C3, C4 and anti-HCV.

Conclusion: Our study supported this fact that an antibody titer above 100IU/l following primary vaccination is necessary in order to maintain that level of antibody 1 year later.

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