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ثبكة المعلومات الجامعية





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ثبكة المعلومات الجامعية







## ENVIRONMENTAL INTRA - FAMILIAL SPREAD OF HEPATITIS - C VIRUS AMONG DIFFERENT SOCIAL LEVELS

#### **THESIS**

### SUBMITTED IN FULFILMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF Ph.D.

In Environmental Sciences (Medical department)

By

#### MEDHAT EL-SAYED ABD EL-AAL

(M.Sc. Gen. Medicine, Ain Shams Univ.)

TO

THE INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES & RESEARCH
AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY

SUPERVIZED BY

PROF. DR. M. A. MADWAR

PROF. & HEAD OF TROPICAL MED., FACULTY OF MED., AIN SHAMS UNIV.

PROF. DR. RASHWAN M. FARAG

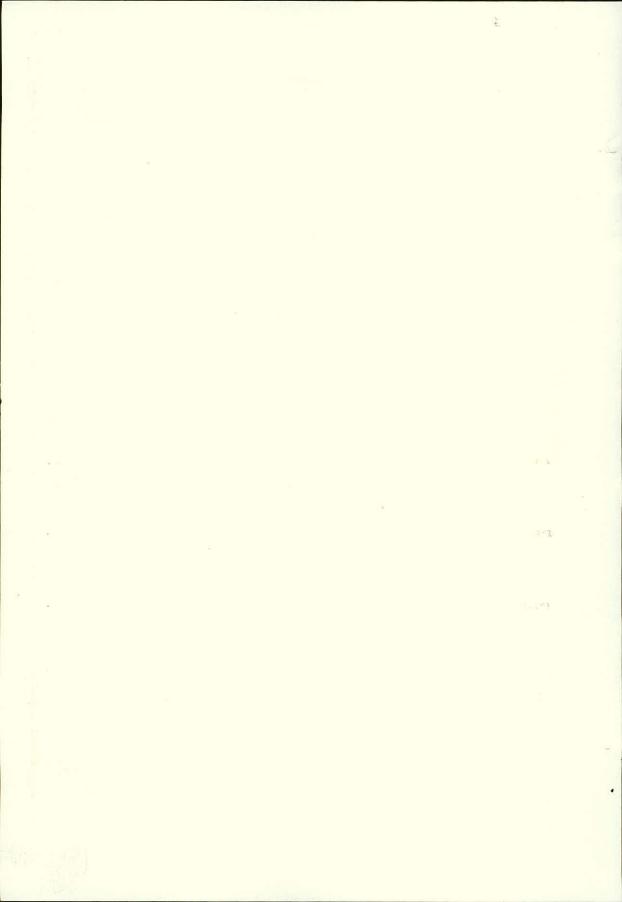
PROF. OF BIOCHEMISTRY, FACULTY OF MED., AIN SHAMS UNIV.

PROF.DR.M.M.SHAFEK

PROF. OF SOCIOLOGY, RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT CENTER.

Berg

Cairo, 1998



#### APPROVAL SHEET

#### AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES & RESEARCH
MEEDICAL DEPARTMENT

# OF HEPATITIS - C VIRUS AMONG DIFFERENT SOCIAL LEVELS

#### BY

MEDHAT EL-SAYED ABD EL-AAL

THIS THESIS FOR PH. D. IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

HAS BEEN APPROVED BY:

PROF. DR. M. A. MADWAR MA

5

PROF. & HEAD OF TROPICAL MED., FACULTY OF MED.,

AIN SHAMS UNIV .

PROF. DR . RASHWAN M . FARAG

PROF. OF BIOCHEMISTRY, FACULTY OF MED.,
AIN SHAMS UNIV.

PROF. DR. M . FARIED ABDEL WAHAB

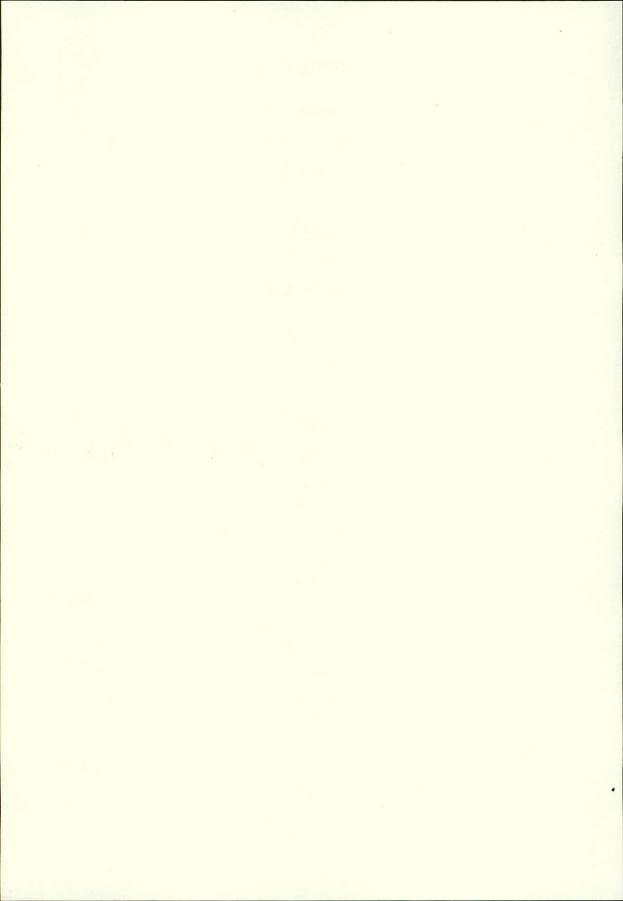
PROF. OF TROPICAL MED., FACULTY OF MED.,
CAIRO UNIV.

PROF. DR. M . ABDEL KADER EL KHAFIF

PROF. OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND HEAD OF THE MEDICAL DEPART. INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES & RESEARCH AIN SHAMS UNIV.

COMMITTE IN CHARGE

DATE OF EXAMINATION: / / 1998



#### **ABSTRACT**

Medhat El-Sayed Abd El-Aal: Environmental Intrafamilial Spread of Hepatitis C Virus among Families of Different Social Levels; Ph.D., Ain Shams University, Institute of Environmental Studies and Research, (MEDICAL DEP.) 1997.

This study was carried out on fifty patients with chronic hepatitis C and their families (total number 240 subjects). The patients were chosen randomly in the Hepatology Clinic at Wadi El-Nil Hospital.

All the patients were subjected to two types of questionnaires; the first was an environmental one to clarify the possible environmental risk factors that could affect the prevalence of hepatitis C virus while the second questionnaire was formulated specifically to reflect the possible psycho-social effects of the hepatitis C virus.

The spouses and children of the patients were tested for anti-HCV to evaluate the intra-familial prevalence and the positive contacts were tested for HCV-RNA (by polymerase chain reaction) to reflect the existing viraemia.

The patients were divided into three groups I, II and III and they were subjected to different combinations of therapy composed of silymarine as a natural cellular stabilizer, levamisol as an immuno-modulator, ribavirin as anti-viral and alpha interferon as a virocidal and immunomodulator, in a trial to achieve the best regimen of treatment of hepatitis C virus.

The aim of the study was to evaluate the prevalence of intrafamilial hepatitis C virus transmission among different social levels; to identify the possible environmental and socio-behavioural factors which could affect such prevalence and hence to clarify the possible environmental

recommendations and to evaluate the psycho-social effects of hepatitis C virus.

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#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

No words can express my deepest appreciation to **Professor Dr.**Mohamad Madwar, Professor and Head of Tropical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his always wise advice and kind supervision of this work. He kindly offered me much of his precious time, wide experience and generous guidance.

I would like to offer my thanks and much appreciation to Professor Dr. Rashwan Farag, Professor of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his continuous support and wise advice. No words can express how I am deeply indebted to him.

Also, I am so grateful to Professor Dr. Mohamad Shafek, Professor of Sociology at Research Development Centre, for his helpful suggestions and advice.

My sincere thanks to Professor Dr. Aly Massoud, Professor of Community, Environmental and Occupational Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his kind help and support.

I am also quite grateful to **Professor Dr. Mohsen Gadallah**, Professor of Community, Environmental and Occupational Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his always support and kind help.

My most sincere thanks and deep appreciation to Professor Dr.

Mohammed El-Khafif, Professor of Biochemistry and Head of the

Medical Department at the Institute of Environmental Studies and

Research, Ain Shams University, for his continuous help and wise advice from the start till the bringing of this thesis to light.

Best regards and thanks to **Professor Dr. Aly Hoballah**, Professor of Microbiology at the Military Medical Academy, for his kind assistance.

Also, my thanks are extended to **Dr. Adel Awad**, Lecturer of Tropical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, El-Minya University for his support.

I would like to offer my thanks to **Dr. Mahmoud Hasan** Emeritus Professor of Statistics and Information System, Faculty of Computer and Information Sciences, Ain Shams University.

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MEDHAT ABDELAAL

1998

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