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شبكة المعلومات الجامعية التوثيق الالكتروني والميكروفيلم





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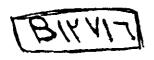


بالرسالة صفحات

لم ترد بالأصل



A STUDY OF SOME EPIDEMIOLOGICAL FEATURES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS AMONG BLOOD DONORS



THESIS

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of Doctor Degree of Public Health, Social and Preventive Medicine

By

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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Viral hepatitis is a disease of antiquity. Although many viruses can affect liver function and morphology indirectly as a result of systemic infections, only a minority are truly hepatotropic i.e. infectious to the liver itself, producing hepatitis as the major clinical manifestation. The term "viral hepatitis" refers to a disease caused by this subgroup. So this term is conventionally used only for a few diseases, caused by several viruses, whose discovery and characterization in recent years has constituted one of the most spectacular successes of modern clinical research (1).

When testing for hepatitis A and B was made generally available, it became clear that the two viruses did not explain all causes of viral hepatitis, as many patients lacked markers of either infection. Thus the concept has emerged of a new variant of viral hepatitis, it was called "non-A, non-B hepatitis" to highlight the fact that the diagnosis was based on exclusion criteria, not on specific positive evidence (2).

Hepatitis C is among the most common causes of chronic liver diseases affecting approximately 1% of the world population⁽³⁾. End-stage HCV related chronic liver disease is the leading indication for liver transplant world wide nowadays⁽⁴⁾. The virus rarely disappears spontaneously and as a result, cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma are commonly encountered during the course of the disease⁽⁵⁾.

The prevalence of hepatitis C infection is high in Egypt⁽⁶⁾. Studies conducted in Egypt using second generation EIA and supplemental recombinant assays (RIBA) confirmed that the antibody prevalence in

blood donors ranged from 6 to 38% and averaged 15%⁽⁷⁾. Among healthy people, seroprevalence of anti-HCV was reported to be 12.1% among rural primary school children, 18.1% of resident of rural village, 22% of army recruits⁽⁸⁾, and 8.4% of pregnant women in which blood transfusion, dental therapy and contact with hepatitis cases were detected in some cases and it seems that community transmitted infection may have a role, the concomitant positivity between maternal and fetal groups were 62.5%⁽⁹⁾.

Although HCV accounts for only a minority of cases of acute hepatitis, it is undoubtedly the most important cause of chronic hepatitis and liver disease. It is a public health problem and represent an economic importance⁽¹⁰⁾.

AIM OF THE WORK

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This study was conducted to : study some epidemiological features of hepatitis C virus among blood donors