

HEPATITIS A - SYMPTOMS, TREATMENT

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Abstract:

Hepatitis A (Botkin's disease) is an RNA virus belonging to the Picornavirus family, Enterovirus class, and causes acute viral liver damage. Its size is 27-30 nm. The virus does not have a shell. In addition, four more human virus genotypes and three monkey virus genotypes have been identified.

Regardless of the genotypes, it was found that all type A viruses have similar antigenic, immunogenic and protective properties. That is, one serotype of the virus is detected with the same standard reagents and is prevented with the same vaccine.

Features of the disease

The spread of the disease occurs mainly in the warm season of the year. However, due to the long incubation period and subclinical stage, infection is more pronounced in spring and autumn. About every 3-5 years, hepatitis A is diagnosed more often than in other years.

Only people are susceptible to hepatitis A virus, regardless of age. Animals are not susceptible to this virus. When people recover from this disease, they develop a permanent, lifelong immunity against Hepatitis A, which means that a person will not get this disease a second time. According to the International Organization for the Control of Infectious Diseases in the world, viral hepatitis A infects 1.4 million people a year. Uzbekistan is included in the range of regions with moderate prevalence of Hepatitis A.

In developed countries with appropriate sanitary and hygienic conditions, the prevalence of viral hepatitis is low. In general, people who are at high risk of developing the disease:

Those who have traveled to regions where this disease is endemic;

People with HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) or AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome);

Drug users;



Persons infected with viral hepatitis B or hepatitis C;

Persons in closed groups of the population (for example, students).

Viral hepatitis A is one of the most common causes of liver infections. For example, in 1988 in Shanghai, according to WHO (World Health Organization), an epidemic affected 300 thousand people.

The outcome of viral hepatitis A is positive in childhood, the disease is asymptomatic (without symptoms), does not affect the quality of life. In adolescence, the disease passes in a serious form, and after the disease, it is necessary to strictly follow the diet. Cases of death are observed only in the elderly and are 4 out of every 1000 cases.

Laboratory methods of research are not clear, they can show inflammation and changes in the liver and in the body as a whole:

The general analysis of the bag — an increase of leukocytes more than $9-1 \cdot 10^9/l$ (leukocytosis), a shift of the leukocyte formula to the left, an increase in ECHT (erythrocyte sedimentation rate), more than 25 mm / h.

General urinalysis — protein in the urine and 15-20 squamous epithelial cells in the field of observation.

Liver tests: total bilirubin is 20.5-40.0 $\mu\text{m}/l$, albumin is reduced.

Serological research methods are specific and allow to make a clear diagnosis of the disease and to clearly identify the causative agent:

IFA (enzyme immunoassay).

RIA (radioimmune analysis).

PCR (polymerase chain reaction).

All serological research methods are based on detection of anti-HAV antigen in blood. Anti-HAV antigen is a special substance of the immune system, which is produced as a result of hepatitis A virus entering the body.

In addition, with the help of these research methods, it is possible to determine the stage and condition of the disease:

The presence of IgM (immunoglobulin M) in the blood serum indicates the presence of an acute process;



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