I contact, 32.3% had history of surgery, 77.1% had history of dental procedure, 8.9% had history of receiving blood and blood products, 1.3% had history of IV drug abuse, 20.4% history of being imprisoned, 10.2% history of living with a person who had hepatitis B, 10.9% had history of bloodletting.

Conclusions: If we notice the prevalence rate of Hepatitis B infection in blood donors we understand that the prevalence rate of this infections in Shiraz blood donors is less than normal population and decreased over the time that may be due to effective donor selection, the lower prevalence rate of Hepatitis B in donor population and more safety measures employed in recent years in Iran. Associate Professor of Iran blood transfusion Research center, High institute for research and education in transfusion medicine, Assistant Professor of Fasa Medical University, Iran

Keywords: Hepatitis B, Blood Donor, Blood Safety, Risk Factors

LIVER EXOSOMES, A NANO SHUTTLE INVOLVED IN HEALTH AND DISEASE

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Exosomes, 30-100 nm endosomal vesicles, is an endogenous nanovesicle with a bilayered membrane that contain various proteins, lipids, and mRNAs. The composition pattern of each exosome is closely associated with the origin of cell that released it. All animal cells can produce and secrete exosomes. Since the liver has various types of cells with the specific functions, different type of exosomes are released in the hepatic environment. To maintain proper homeostasis in the liver, the presence of all types exosomes is necessary. Different type of exosomes has different cargos which induce discrepant biological functions and signaling in their target cells including modulating stress conditions, detoxifying of endogenous and exogenous harmful compounds, regenerating the injured tissues, detecting extracellular stimuli, differentiation and angiogenesis. Furthermore, exosomes released in the pathological condition contains specific components. This specificity also can be valuable in distinguishing between various types of severity. In addition, the presence of genetic materials in these vesicles may probably involve in differentiation or carcinogenesis of other cells via paracrine interaction. According to our knowledge, exosomes contribute in both the liver restoration and damaging, therefore controlling their release may be useful for prevention and treatment of liver diseases. Also, it is possible to design a novel tool based on exosomes to apply for gene therapy.

Keywords: Exosome, Liver Disease, Liver Function, Cholangiocyte, Drug Detoxification

MORTALITY RISK FACTORS IN PATIENTS WITH HEPATITIS C AND HIV-ASSOCIATED TUBERCULOSIS

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Background: Hepatitis C virus (HCV) and human-immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are one of the most challenging co-morbidities emerging in tuberculosis-infected patients. Medications for treatment of TB, HIV and HCV are hepatotoxic.

Objectives: To determine mortality risk factors and TB treatment outcome among patients infected with TB, HIV and HCV.

Methods: In a retrospective study medical records of all admitted TB-HIV-HCV co-infected patients in the National Research Institute of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (NRITLD) were reviewed. A standardized data sheet was applied to collect demographic, clinical, laboratory and microbiologic data. Presenting signs and symptoms, co-morbidities and widespread lab data (including biochemical, hematological and serologic assay) were measured.

Results: Analysis of 67 TB-HIV-HCV co-infected patients showed all of them were smoker males, 44.78% jobless, 38.81% opium user, 10.45% HBsAg+, 85.07% imprisoned ship an 14.93% were died in hospital. Among different demographic factors, there was an only significant difference in marital status. No significant clinical symptom was discriminative. Statistical analysis of laboratory data showed that platelet level, Hgb and WBC were significantly low in patients with in hospital mortality. Elevated liver enzyme was more common among patients with in hospital mortality.

Conclusions: These findings imply that physician should pay more attention to liver function tests and complete blood count in these patients. This study like previous studies clarifies that the rate of anti tuberculosis therapy induced hepatotoxicity in HCV-HIV co-infected patients is similar to other patients; but the specific situation of TB-HIV-HCV infected patients needs more attention to LFT.

Keywords: Hepatitis C, Human-Immunodeficiency Virus, Tuberculosis, Hepatotoxicity

PREVALENCE OF HEPATITIS G IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONICALLY ELEVATED LIVER ENZYMES LEVEL

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Background: Hepatitis G is a hepatotrope virus with unknown importance. Its prevalence among blood donors reaches about 1.7% and in people with high liv-