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INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

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Short incubation non-A, non-B hepatitis transmitted by factor VIII concentrates in patients with congenital coagulation disorders.

Bamber M, Murray A, Arborgh BA, Scheuer PJ, Kernoff PB, Thomas HC, Sherlock S.

Abstract

Ten cases are reported of short incubation (one to four weeks) non-A, non-B hepatitis occurring after infusion of various preparations of factor VIII concentrates into patients with coagulation disorders. Five patients were symptomatic and, in all, serum transaminase levels were increased for at least six months. These cases of chronic hepatitis exhibited none of the features of autoimmune chronic hepatitis: autoantibodies were negative and serum immunoglobulins were normal. Hepatic histology confirmed acute hepatitis in two cases biopsied early in the illness, and chronic active hepatitis (three) or chronic persistent hepatitis (two) in five cases studied later. Lobular inflammation was a prominent feature in all cases. Other features not commonly associated with type A or B hepatitis included fatty change and damaged bile ducts.

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Table I. Patient characteristics, treatment and outcome in prospectively-studied patients

Patient	Sex	Age (yr)	Product	Batch	Dose (u/kg)	Previous exposure (donor units)	Incubation period (d)	Peak AST ^b (times upper limit of normal)	Symptoms ^a
1	M	63	Com VIII	A	860	500	10	5.3	S
2	M	53	Com VIII	B+C	670	800	9	6.3	SJ
3	F	29	Com VIII	D+E	34	190	18	2.3	SJ
4	M	77	Com VIII	F	15	300	34	8	SJ
5	M	23	Com VIII	G	11	500	35	1.9	O
6	F	34	Com VIII, ISG	H	781	5	36	2.9	SJ
7	M	21	Com VIII, ISG	I	164	200‡	20	7.4	O
8	M	19	Com VIII, ISG	I	26	1000‡	19	4.3	O
9	M	25	Com VIII, ISG	I	23	1000‡	9	3.9	SJ
10	M	4 mo	NHS VIII	J	300	Nil	28	2.8	O
11	M✓	13✓	NHS VIII✓	K+L	216	200‡✓	94✓	10	O✓
12	M	4	NHS VIII	M	210	Nil	42	3.1	O
13	M	55	NHS VIII	N	180	200‡	65	5.7	O
14	F	10	NHS VIII	O	149	35‡	58	2.5	O
15	M	8 mo	NHS VIII	P	110	Nil	48	1.8	O
16	M	27 mo	NHS VIII	Q	19	6	14	4.1	O
17	M	50	NHS VIII	R	16	100‡	21	2.4	S
18	M✓	42✓	NHS VIII✓	R	15	200‡✓	48✓	2.8	S✓
19	M✓	15✓	NHS VIII✓	S	9	200‡✓	50✓	4.0	SJ✓
20	F	34	NHS VIII	T	18	300	No hepatitis		
21	M	20	NHS VIII	U	8	1600	No hepatitis		
22	F	40	NHS Cryo		84	Nil	No hepatitis		
					(70 donor units)				
23	F	34	NHS Cryo		84	Nil	No hepatitis		
					(70 donor units)				
24	M	20	NHS Cryo		32	Nil	No hepatitis		
					(35 donor units)				
16	M	19 mo	NHS Cryo		30	Nil	No hepatitis		
					(6 donor units)				
25	M	6	NHS Cryo		12	Nil	No hepatitis		
					(5 donor units)				
26	M	19	NHS IX	a	339	20	18	2.4	O
27	M	16	NHS IX	b	102	Nil	26	3.8	O
28	M	22 mo	NHS IX	c+d	74	Nil	21	2.8	O
29†	M	52	NHS IX	e+f	34	Nil	7	8.5	S
30	F	38	NHS IX, ISG	g	89	10	No hepatitis		

^a S/O indicates presence/absence of symptoms, J indicates the presence of clinical jaundice.[†] Patient 29 also developed hepatitis B. Details shown refer to attack of NANB hepatitis.[‡] Patients treated with blood products (cryoprecipitate exclusively) in the 6 month period before their 'first exposure' infusion.