

# PREVALENCE OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) INFECTION MARKERS IN ACUTE NON-A HEPATITIS PATIENTS FROM CLUJ-NAPOCA

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This study aimed to determine the prevalence of HCV and hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection markers in acute non-A hepatitis patients from Cluj area. We also aimed to determine the prevalence of hepatitis D virus (HDV)

infection markers in HBV infected patients. Sera of 132 patients hospitalized in the Infectious Diseases Clinic of Cluj-Napoca with acute non-A hepatitis (epidemiological, clinical, biochemical and serological criteria - IgM anti-HAV negative) have been tested for: HBsAg, anti-HBs, anti-HBc, anti-HDV, anti-HCV (automated ELISA). The blood samples have been collected 9+/-2 weeks after the hospital entry of patients. 94/132 patients (71%) had HBV infection markers (HBsAg positive at hospital entry); anti-HDV were detected in 14/94 HBsAg positive patients (15%). Anti-HCV were positive in 2 patients (1,5%). In 22 patients (16,6%) no hepatitis virus markers have been detected. Prevalence of HCV infection in studied patients was 1,5%. Serologic diagnosis of acute hepatitis C virus infection is difficult because of the natural history of the disease. HBV infection markers are prevalent in the etiology of acute non-A hepatitis in Cluj area. In our study the prevalence of HDV infection markers in HBV infected patients was reduced (15%).