

DIFERENTIAL-DIAGNOSTIC AND PROGNOSTIC SIGNIFICANCE OF ALPHA-FETOPROTEINEMIA IN VIRAL HEPATITIS AND PRIMARY CANCER OF THE LIVER

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There was investigated alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) by Abelev Tatarinov method at 398 patients with viral hepatitis B (VHB) and at 366 with viral hepatitis C (VHC). AFP was detected in blood at patients with VHB during the first ten-day period (1,8%); the frequency of detection increased during the 2-nd and 3-rd (2,9 and 3,1%) and strongly increased during the 4-th and 5-th ten-day period (7,4 and 9,1%), then decreased gradually during the 6-th ten-day period and later (2,9 and 0,9%). AFP was detected only during the 2-nd and 3-rd ten-day period (1,2 and 2,7%) at patients with VHA; at 8 (8,3%) of 96 patients with chronic active hepatitis; 11 (12,8%) of with liver cirrhosis and at 39 (49,4%) of 79 with primary cancer of the liver. Thus, the dynamics of AFP has a reversible character in VH as opposed to lack of dynamics or risk of the concentration of AFP in primary cancer of the liver. The persistence of AFP in the blood of patients with chronic active VHB may be a first sign of hepatic carcinoma development.