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Impact of fever stress due to extra-hepatic infections on the progress of chronic Hepatitis C

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Abstract

Fever is a prominent sign of an acute-phase response induced by microbial invasion, tissue injury, immunologic reactions or inflammatory processes. Hepatic involvement is one of the hallmarks due to elevated body temperature resulting in oxidative stress. We aimed to investigate the risk of fever stress due to extra-hepatic common infections on chronic hepatitis C (HCV). The study included 70 patients with chronic HCV. 32 were evaluated for anti-HCV treatment, liver functions and viral load were re-assessed when developed fever > 38.5 C as a sequel to common extra-hepatic infections without direct liver affection; acute tonsillitis, seasonal influenza or urinary tract infection and 38 HCV patients were received during episode of fever and re-assessed after one month of recovery from fever (before interferon therapy). 34 healthy liver volunteers with fever due to these infections were included as control. Liver functions and HCV viral load showed significant increase $p<0.05$ in both groups of HCV during fever irrespective of the etiology as compared to before fever or after its subsidence while insignificant ($p>0.05$) between both in absence of fever. Increased intensity of fever carries more risk. Non-hepatitis control showed insignificant difference in liver functions during, or in absence of fever but significant as compared to HCV patients. Fever stress could deteriorate liver functions and elevate HCV viral load requiring early management of fever and its etiology.

Biography

Prof Abdel Raouf Abou El Azm has MD in 1988 from Tanta University, Assistant Prof in 1993 and full Prof in 1998, Tanta University. He had a Scolarship in 2004 in Hannover School of Medicine, Department of Hepatology and Gastroenterology. He is the president of Egyptian Society of Liver and Environment and was a former head of Department of Tropical Medicine and Infectious Diseases (2008-2011) and became a member of Scientific Committee in Supreme Universities Council for Professors Promotion. He has published more than 60 papers in reputed journals and serving as an editorial board member of repute.