Potikhenskaya K., Omelchenko A.

CHILDREN’S PARENTERAL VIRAL HEPATITIS:DIAGNOSTICS AND

TREATMENT

Kharkiv National Medical University,Kharkiv, Ukraine

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) and C (HCV) are an extremely important medical and social issue. On the globe there are 300-400 million carriers of HBV, nearly 2 millionof which are dying annually. The prevalence of HCV among children is 4-7 million.

In Kharkov region there were identified 132 children with chronic viral hepatitis (CVH), 93 children of them had HBV, 39 children – HCV, 8 children – HBV + HCV.

The objective: to determine the epidemiological patterns, peculiarities of children’s chronic viral hepatitis (CVH), to analyze the effectiveness of antiviral therapy (AVT). Materials and methods. They examined 17 children aged from 2 to 18 years with CVH in the last 2 years, who had been treated at the Department of Gastroenterology of CSTO. Methods applied: clinical, biochemical (ALT, AST, bilirubin), instrumental (abdominal ultrasound), serological (HBsAg, anti-HBs, HBeAg, anti-HBe, anti-HBcIg M and G, anti-HCV), viral (DNA-HBV, PHK-HCV).

Laboratory studies were carried out with the usage of commercial ELISA test kits. Antiviral therapy (AVT) was held using preparations of recombinant human interferon alpha-2b (HBV), PEG-IFN alfa-2b (HCV). 35% of the patients had a combination therapy with ribavirin and 41% – with lamivudine.

Results. Those infected by HBV were mostly preschool and early-school age children, among the mixed infected high school children were dominating. All examined had infectious process in the phase of viral replication (HBeAg +, DNA HBV +, RNA HCV +). The study of the anamnesis of HBC and HCV patients showed that 35% of them were exposed to surgical intervention, 29% had a repeated hemodialysis and plazmotransfusions , and only in 12% of cases the source of infection was mother. It was found that icteric HV took place only in 12% of HBV cases (2 people). Most patients suffered anicteric and subclinical HV. In case of anicteric form they identified dyspeptic symptoms and toxicity (HBV – 65,0%; HCV – 6%), but the main symptoms were hepatomegaly (84%) and hyperenzymemia (65%). Ultrasound hasn’t revealed any pathology except for liver enlargement, diffuse parenchymal echogenicity and pathology of gallbladder (deformation and hypomotor biliary dyskinesia). The most common side effects during the following AVT are thrombocytopenia and flu-like symptoms among two thirds of the patients, asthenovegetative and dyspeptic syndromes among half of the patients. 2 patients had psychiatric disorders (aggression, irritability).

Conclusions. Because of the high infection rate of HBV and HCV among the population, along with adults children are also involved into the epidemic process, and so nowadays the HV belongs to the most common diseases among children. Atypical forms (anicteric, erased) are the most widespread forms of clinical hepatitis. On determining HCV or HBV the antiviral therapy is prescribed. The duration of the disease and the genotype of the HC virus are important criteria for predicting effectiveness of the antiviral therapy. The combined usage of alpha-interferon with lamivudine causes a significant increase of effectiveness of the chronic viral hepatitis therapy.