

Trial of lamivudine in hepatitis-B surface antigen carriers with persistence hepatitis-B core IgM antibody

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Background & Aims: The persistence of hepatitis B core IgM antibody in hepatitis B surface antigen carrier is a risk factor with hidden danger and forecast existence of liver damage. A trial of lamivudine in such subset of carriers was carried on for the first time in this study.

Patients & Methods: A total of 62 hepatitis B surface antigen with hepatitis e antibody individuals (age range, 25-45 years) with persistence hepatitis B core IgM antibody were randomized to receive either 100 mg lamivudine (32/62) or placebo (30/62) daily for 6 months.

Results: Among lamivudine group, hepatitis B core IgM antibody seroclearance achievement rate was 81.3% and HBsAg seroconversion rate was 9.4 % compared to 6.3% and 3.3% in placebo group respectively. A number of adverse clinical events were observed, but were of mild nature and tolerable by the participants who completed the study.

Conclusion: Trial of lamivudine in this subset of hepatitis B surface antigen carriers proven to be safe and efficacious. More studies are needed prior to recommending the drug for routine use on selected HBV carriers.

Biography

Prof Dr Husham YMA Bayazed, Dean of Technical & Health Institute-Zakho, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Kurdistan Regional Government-Iraq. Consultant of Microbiology & Immunology and have published till now 22 papers in reputed journals. On the other hand, being a membership in many national and International Committees such membership of Iraqi Viral Hepatitis Committee, Fellowship of ISC, Infection and Cancer, membership of World Stroke Organization and Immunology Advisory Board Member of EUROMDnet, Brussels, Belgium.