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Successful treatment of chronic Hepatitis C infection in Republic of Srpska

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Introduction: Viral hepatitis C remains one of the major health and social problems related to infectious diseases. Today, interferon-free therapy using new direct-acting antivirals (DAA) has increased the cure rate across different HCV-infected patient populations. Nowadays, viral hepatitis C threatens to become a healing disease.

Methods: The methodology involved a retrospective study. We will present our experiences from the work carried out in 2016 and 2017. We have approved treatment with ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir + dasabuvir in a total of 55 patients' report.

Results: In 2016, we analyzed 25 patients, 17 (68%) males and 8 (32%) females with age of 26-66 years. In 2017, we analyzed 30 patients, 22 (73%) males and 8 (26,7%) females with age of 23-67 years. Sustained viral response (SVR) is 100%. Adverse events are typically mild, most commonly consisting of fatigue, headache, nausea, and diarrhea.

Discussion/Conclusions: The regimen consisting of ombitasvir/paritaprevir/ritonavir and dasabuvir is highly efficacious in the treatment of viral hepatitis C. Today, viral hepatitis C is a curable disease, which reduces membrane damage, as well as the costs of treating patients.

Recent Publications:

1. Zeuzem S et al. (2015) Grazoprevir-Elbasvir combination therapy for treatment-naïve cirrhotic and noncirrhotic patients with chronic hepatitis C virus genotype 1, 4, or 6 infection: a randomized trial. *Ann. Intern. Med.* 163(1):1-13.
2. Chahal H S et al. (2016) Cost-effectiveness of early treatment of hepatitis C virus genotype 1 by stage of liver fibrosis in a US treatment-naïve population. *JAMA Internal Medicine.* 176(1):65-73.
3. Poordad F and Dieterich D (2012) Treating hepatitis C: current standard of care and emerging direct-acting antiviral agents. *J. Viral. Hepat.* 19(7):449-464.
4. Manns M P et al. (2001) Peginterferon alfa-2b plus ribavirin compared with interferon alfa-2b plus ribavirin for initial treatment of chronic hepatitis C: a randomized trial. *Lancet.* 358(9286):958-965.
5. Ferenci P et al. (2014) ABT-450/r-ombitasvir and dasabuvir with or without ribavirin for HCV. *N. Engl. J. Med.* 370(21):1983-1992.

Biography

Jelena Petkovic Dabic graduated from the Faculty of Medicine in University in Banja Luka Republic of Srpska, 2005. Experienced Head with a demonstrated history of working in the medical practice industry. She is skilled at Research Management, Medical Education, Healthcare, and Healthcare Management. Strong professional with a Doctor of Medicine (MD) master focused in Health/Health Care Administration/Management from School of Public Health Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade. She is currently employed as Head of the Health Sector in the Health Insurance Fund of the Republic of Serbia. She is currently planning the treatment for hepatitis C and all funded biological medicines. She is now Dermatovenerology Resident-University Clinical Center of the RS. She is mainly interested in new molecules and their application in the treatment of very serious illness.

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