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### International Conference on

# **Digestive Diseases**

December 08-09, 2016 Dubai, UAE

### Management of chronic hepatitis C: A single center experience

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**Background & Aim:** Treatment for HCV infection is undergoing a rapid evolution, offering new hope to both naïve and treatment-experienced patients. Numerous highly effective, but expensive, direct acting antiviral (DAA) drugs active against different targets are now available. The aim of this study is to investigate the efficacy and safety of DAAs with and without PEG-IFN- $\alpha$  2a, and/or ribavirin in treating chronic hepatitis C patients in Mansoura Specialized Medical Hospital.

**Material & Methods:** This observational study involved 181 patients with chronic hepatitis C presented to our Viral Hepatitis Outpatient Clinic at Mansoura Specialized Medical Hospital for anti-viral therapy over an 18 months period from January 2015 to June 2016. A total of sex different regimens were used depending on the national and international changing guidelines. All patients were thoroughly assessed and followed up for SVR and side effects. Investigations involved Fibroscan & FIB-4 score for non-invasive assessment of liver fibrosis, and serial HCV RNA assay by PCR.

Results: SVR12 for regimen 1 (PEG-IFN- $\alpha$  2a + Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin) was 37/50 (74%), regimen 2 (Sofosbuvir + Ribavirin) was 40/56 (71%), regimen 3 (Sofosbuvir + Simeprevir) was 16/19 (78.9%), regimen 4 (Sofosbuvir + Daclatasvir  $\pm$  Ribavirin) was 23/25 (92%), regimen 5 (Sofosbuvir + Ledipasvir) was 23/25 (92%), and regimen 6 (Paritprevir + Ombitasvir + Ritonavir) was 5/6 (83.3%). Commonly reported side effects (>10%) included fatigue (66%), flu like symptoms (48%), dyspnea (40%), psychiatric changes (30%), anemia (30%), cough (28%), nausea (24%), hypersensitivity (20%), rash (10%) for regimen 1. For regimen 2, fatigue (28.7%), cough (26.8%), and anemia (26.8%). For regimen 3, fatigue (26.3%), hypersensitivity (26.3%), and rash (15.8%). For the other 3 regimens fatigue was the only dominating side effect.

#### **Biography**

Monir Hussein Bahgat has done his specialization in Internal Medicine in the year 1995. Currently, he is a Professor of Hepatology and Gastroenterology (Internal Medicine department), Manoura University Egypt. He is a member of EASL and IASL.

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