LETTER TO EDITOR

Hepatitis C Virus Infection

I have read with great interest the review entitled “Hepatitis C Virus Infection: A Brief Review” recently published by Saleem Kamili and Hisham Qadri in the January-March issue of the *Journal of Medical Sciences*.¹ The efforts made by the authors to present the useful information will definitely help the clinicians to treat patients with the Hepatitis C in a better and effective way. I wish to make the following comments on the diagnostic evaluation of Hepatitis C infection. This type of study was needed in this hour to know the prevalence, causes, symptoms and available treatment of this disorder. As we all know that the severity of infection can range from a mild illness lasting for a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness as the virus can cause both acute and chronic hepatitis. Usually new HCV infections are asymptomatic. Some persons get acute hepatitis which does not lead to a life-threatening disease. It is essential to note here that around 30% (1545%) of the persons infected with this virus spontaneously clear the virus within 6 months of infection without any treatment. The remaining 70% (5585%) of persons will develop chronic HCV infection. In the persons with chronic HCV

infection, the risk of cirrhosis ranges between 15% and 30% within 20 years. Globally 71 million people have chronic hepatitis C virus infection. It was estimated by WHO in 2016 that approximately 3,99000 people died from hepatitis C, mostly from cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma primary liver cancer. It is noteworthy that Antiviral medicines can cure more than 95% of persons with hepatitis C infection, thereby the risk of death from cirrhosis and liver cancer can be reduced, but access to diagnosis and treatment is low.

Reference

1. Kamili S, Qadri H. Hepatitis C Virus Infection: A Brief Review. *jms* [Internet]. 2020 Jun.5 [cited 2020 Jul.23];23(1):3-15. Available from: <http://jmsskims.org/index.php/jms/article/view/753>

Dr. Nissar Ahmad Wani, PhD

Department of Bioresources, University of Kashmir,
Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir India

[email: nisarwani80@gmail.com](mailto:nisarwani80@gmail.com)

Access this article online

Website:
www.jmsskims.org

DOI:
<https://doi.org/10.33883/jms.v23i2.762>

How to cite this article: Wani N. Hepatitis C Virus Infection. *JMS* 2020; 23(2): 50

Received: 2020-06-18 Accepted: 2020-06-20