

Primary Epidemiologic Study of Hepatitis C in Malekan City by Elisa Method

Tanomand A¹, Montazam H², Kafshnochi M²

¹ Tabriz University of Medical Sciences

² Islamic Azad University of Bonab

In a cross sectional study in Malekan city (East Azarbaijan), we collected 346 serum samples by random sampling (cluster sampling) from different regions (77 urban, 269 rural; 65 male, 181 female) and all of age groups. The serum samples were tested for anti-HCV antibodies by using ELISA method by double check (Dieiaplus kit, Pajohan teb Co). The seroprevalence of anti-HCV antibodies was found to be 1.5% in the general population in Malekan city by ELISA method. The age-specific rates, which were similar in both sexes, indicated the lowest rate in 0-10 year's group (0%) with a strong increase in the older (40<) age group (60%) (See table below).

Table: Results of HCV Tests according to age groups

age groups (yrs)	HCV Positive (Nr and %)
0-10 (n=11)	–
11-20 (n=82)	1 (1.2)
21-30 (n=96)	–
31-40 (n=63)	1 (1.5)
>40 (n=94)	3 (3.2)
Total (n=346)	5 (1.4)

Corresponding author:

Asghar Tanomand, Tabriz University of Medical Science
Nursing Faculty of Maragheh, Moallem St., Maragheh,
Iran.

Tel: +98 421 227 6363

E-mail: tanomanda@tbzmed.ac.ir