

# Approach to pediatric hepatology

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## Hepatitis A

- \* RNA virus
- \* Incubation period 15-19 days
- \* Transmission → fecal-oral route
- \* Most common presentation → flu-like symptoms

- acute and benign hepatitis.
- Fulminant hepatic failure....very...rare....(1% of cases)
- a member of the picornavirus family.

- \* we don't have chronic hepatitis A
- \* There is no carrier

بسبب الانتشار الواسع، فإن  
the prevalence of  
Hep A is very large  
making that 1%  
significant.

\* The most common  
cause for acute liver  
transplant in  
adults is due to  
Hepatitis A  
(بعد ال paracetamol)

\* يتبع ال presentation jaundice  
\* و كل ما كان ال pt أكبر (adult) يتبع  
ال chances to present as jaundice و ال complications

أحد

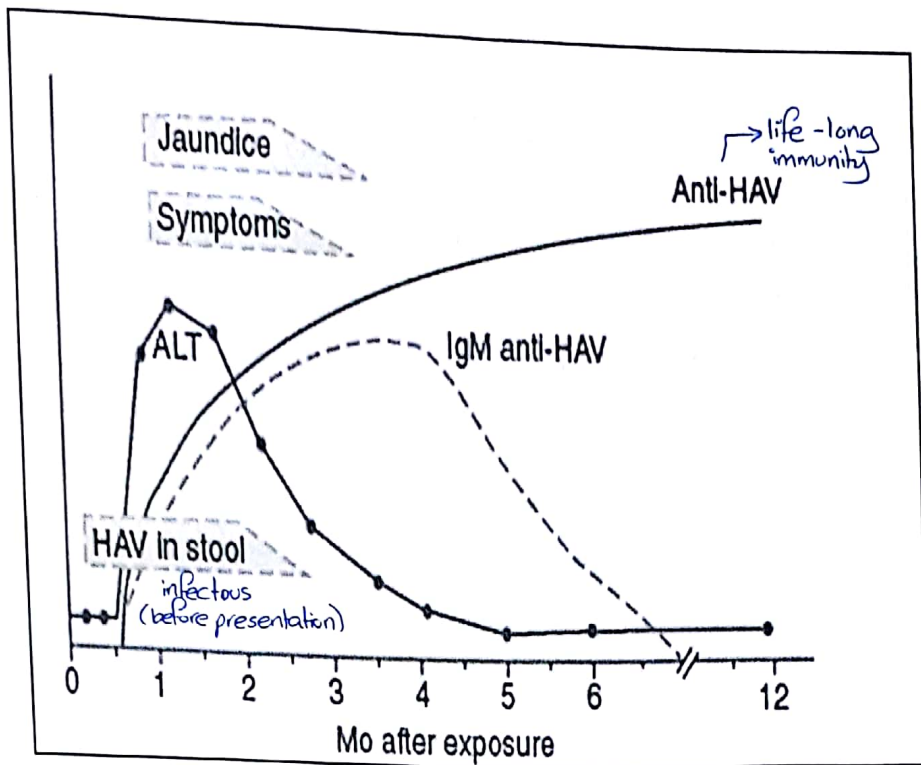
## Hepatitis A

- Transmission is almost always by person-to-person contact
- The incubation period for HAV is ~3 wk.
- Fecal excretion of the virus

\* Infectious period (when is a person infectious) =  
1-2 weeks before the onset of the illness

## Hepatitis A

- Clinical symptoms gastro-enteritis or flu-like symptoms (vague presentation)
- The illness is much more likely to be symptomatic with jaundice in...older pts. (adolescents) and immunocompromised pts



## Hepatitis A

- Diagnosis → by looking for IgM anti-HAV (this antibody can remain +ve for 6 months, but when you have a pt with jaundice and a +ve IgM, this is hep A until proven otherwise)
- Types of antibodies present  
IgM and IgG

# Hepatitis A

- Prognosis → very good prognosis (unless in the 1% cases of fulminant liver failure)
- Complications
  - ↳ acute liver failure

→ When do we give pts w/ Hep A immunoglobulins?  
 - Immunocompromised pts

أو إذا واحد سافر على endemic area بفترة ما يتسحلي أعطيه vaccine المنعیه (يعني مثلا إذا راح يسافر خلال ٣ أسابيع ليشغل) ، أفراد منعه immunoglobulins و المطعوم ، حتى تحميه ال immunoglobulins (لحد ما يشغل vaccine)

# Hepatitis A

## • Management

- Medical
  - Supportive (IV fluids)
  - immunoglobulin

- Indications for admission
- Liver transplant

\* حصول اللى حكيم الدكتور \*  
 → If coagulopathy is present  
 ↳ vomiting and ↓ oral intake  
 ↳ If pt has hepatic encephalopathy

\* خارجي From medscape : Admit pts w/ hepatitis if they are showing any S&S suggestive of severe complications :

- Hepatic encephalopathy (altered mental status, agitation, behavior or personality changes, changes in their sleep-wake cycle)
- PT longer than 3 sec.
- Bilirubin level >30 mg/dl
- Intractable vomiting
- Hypoglycemia
- significant electrolyte or fluid disturbances
- significant comorbid illness (ex. pt above 50 yrs old, or immunocompromised)

# Hepatitis A

- Prevention
  - Hygien
  - Vaccine

- When do we give the vaccine?

(2 dose vaccine) - After the age of 1 year and b/w the first and second dose 6 months

→ Who is the most important person to give Hep A vaccine?

Any child with a chronic liver disease must be given Hep A vaccine

(ex. if child has hep B or C, Allagile syndrome, wilson's disease)

\* Hep A vaccine is very good, it has a seroconversion of 90% in the first dose and 95% in the 2nd dose

## CHRONIC LIVER DISEASES

↳ > 6 months

### History and physical signs of chronic liver disease

- Family history of liver disease or liver transplantation → for inherited causes (ex. Wilson's disease)
- History to suggest viral hepatitis
- Consanguinity for inherited disorders
  - recent travel
  - contact w/ sick ppl
  - blood transfusion (سكس)
  - screening 1 glass 1954 was ←
  - tattoos
  - drug abuse
  - pts on dialysis
  - contact w/ pts w/ hepatitis

### History and physical signs of chronic liver disease

- Non-specific fatigue, headache, GI manifestations, fever, abd. pain
- Failure to thrive → it's a chronic disease, and if there is an element of cholestasis → malabsorption
- Pruritus → due to the deposition of conjugated bilirubin in the skin
- Jaundice
- pallor → anemia of chronic disease / also hep B can have manifestations on the bone marrow / hemolysis in Wilson's disease (due to presence of copper in the blood stream)
- clubbing
- Symptoms of portal hypertension
- Hepatomegaly vs shrunken liver → early
- Neurological signs → cirrhosis

due to presence of toxins causing constriction of the vasculature in the peripheral part of the body

→ from hepatic encephalopathy

- Abdominal distention
- Hepatosplenomegaly
- Caput medusa
- Ascites
- Hematemesis due to upper GI bleeding from varices (esophageal)

\* Presence of a hemolytic episode in a child with elevated liver enzymes and cholestasis is Wilson's disease until proven otherwise

- Parotid enlargement
- Spider nevi
- Gynecomastia
- Hypogonadism

Palmar  
erythema

Ascites

Jaundice

spider nevi



xantholasmata



clubbing



dilated veins

## Complications of chronic liver disease

hepatic encephalopathy    آفام و حرة

## Complications of chronic liver disease

- Hepatic encephalopathy

4 stages

	STAGES			
	I	II	III	IV → needs liver transplant
Symptoms	Periods of lethargy, euphoria; reversal of day-night sleeping; may be alert	Drowsiness, inappropriate behavior, agitation, wide mood swings, disorientation	Stupor but arousable, confused, incoherent speech	Coma No response to noxious stimuli No response
Signs	Trouble drawing figures, performing mental tasks تعبه شديد	Asterixis, fetor hepaticus, incontinence	Asterixis, hyperreflexia, extensor reflexes, rigidity	Areflexia, no asterixis, flaccidity
Electroencephalogram EEG	Normal	Generalized slowing, q waves	Markedly abnormal, triphasic waves	Markedly abnormal bilateral slowing, d waves, electric-cortical silence

أي جاب chronic liver disease كزيم نشوف ال reflexes

## Complications of chronic liver disease

- Cirrhosis → presents w/ oligouria and ↑ creatinine
  - Hepatorenal syndrome → indication for liver transplant ما في رجعة
  - Hepatopulmonary syndrome → 1st presentation → hypoxia (↓ O<sub>2</sub> sat)
  - Hepatocellular carcinoma → indication for liver transplant
- due to vasoconstriction ←



## CHRONIC VIRAL HEPATITIS

### FEATURES OF THE HEPATOTROPIC VIRUSES

VIROLOGY	HAV RNA	HBV DNA	HCV RNA	HDV RNA	HEV RNA
Incubation (days)	15-19	60-180	14-160	21-42	21-63
Transmission					
• Parenteral	Rare	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
• Fecal-oral	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
• Sexual	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
• Perinatal	No	Yes	Rare	Yes	No
Chronic infection	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Fulminant disease	Rare	Yes	Rare	Yes	Yes

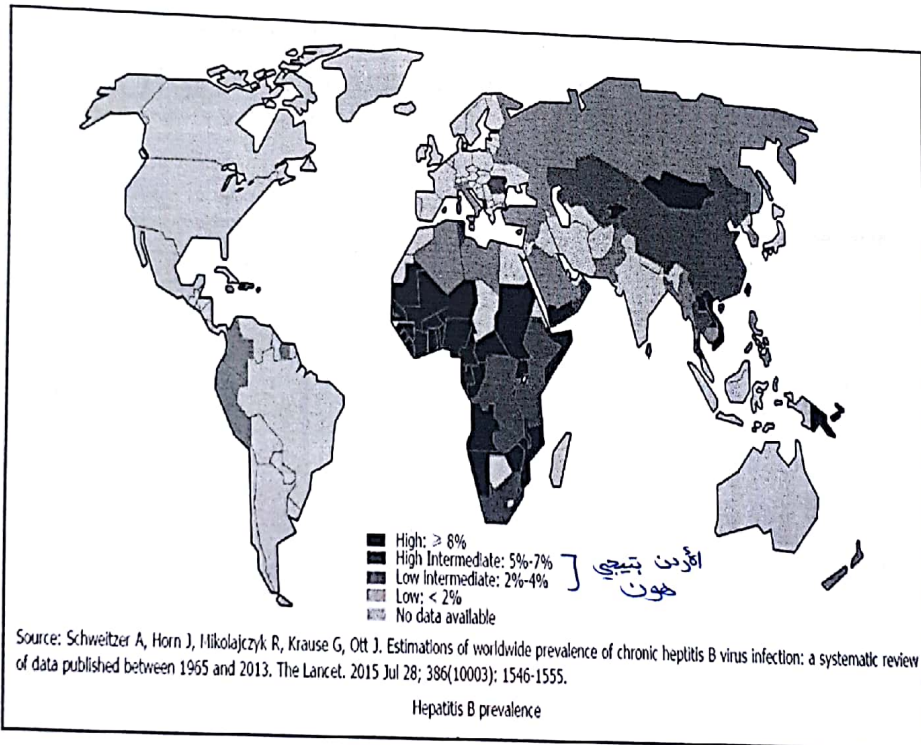
# Hepatitis B Virus

- DNA virus
- Can cause chronic Hep B
- Has a vaccine (effective)
- ↑ risk for cancer
- The younger the age of infx the more complications

HBV DNA has four long open reading frames:

- S gene & pre-S region encodes for surface Ag (HBsAg)
- C gene encodes for viral nucleocapsid Ag (core) & HBeAg (envelope)
- P gene encodes DNA polymerase
- X gene has enhancer promoter complex to direct transcription of host gene

← جدول عنوان نفعي  
 ال state تجت ال pt  
 و احنا لما بننا نحدد  
 منطبع على ال surface  
 و ال core  
 و ال envelope



## Clinical presentation of HBV

- Acute hepatitis → in 30% of cases
- Chronic > 6 mths
- extrahepatic immune mediated
  - ↳ renal membranoproliferative disorders
  - ↳ Guillien Barre syndrome
  - ↳ Polymyalgia rheumatica
  - ↳ Vasculitis (polyarteritis nodosa)

## Risk factors for HBV infection

- Intravenous drugs or blood products
- Acupuncture or tattoos
- Sexual contact
- Institutional care, and intimate contact with carriers.
- Occupational exposure (health care workers)
- \*• Perinatal exposure to HBsAg positive mother
- No risk factors are identified in ~40% of cases.

Transmission of Hep B → vertical (mother to child)  
 ↳ Horizontal

التي بحكمنا بالطفل أول ما ينولد انه يكون لساعده و antibodies من الأم  
 فما يستفيد من لانه اشرف ال antibodies # تبعه الا بعد ٦ أشهر لسنة عشان يكون  
 مية المية منه مش من الأم

HBeAg +ve و high viral load عندها و HbsAg +ve  
 She is very likely to transmit the infx to the baby.

### Perinatal transmission of HBV

- In children, the most important risk factor for acquisition of HBV is perinatal exposure to an HBsAg-positive mother
- Serologic markers of infection and antigenemia appear 1-3 mo after birth, suggesting that transmission occurred at the time of delivery.
- Up to 90% of these infants are asymptomatic but become chronically infected.

\* Usually transmission occurs during delivery (not during pregnancy)

فاخا أول ما ينولد البيبي  
 منغطيه Immunoglobulins vaccine ال  
 و منغطيه ال (at different sites)  
 مثلا بتعطيه المطعوم  
 عالرجل اليمين و الimmunoglobulins  
 عالشمال. (عشان ما يلغوا بعض)  
 و بعدين منغطيه المطعوم  
 بعد شهرين و بعدين  
 و اذا كان البيبي preterm  
 و أقل من ٠,٥ كيلو  
 بوزن ع جوع من  
 المطعوم

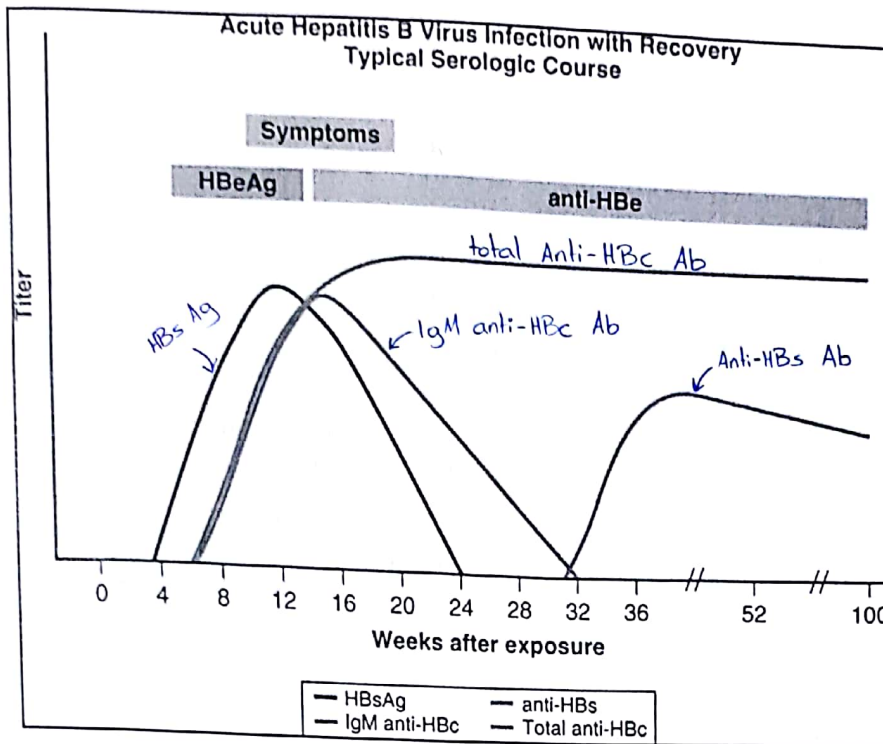
\* في نسبة قليلة جدا من الأطفال لا حظوا انه اذا عملونهم Hep B DNA by PCR بتطلع +ve  
 على عمر ٣ أشهر و هذا الجيني suggests that the infx occurred during pregnancy  
 و هذول بلاطات ما بتزبط معرم لا المطعوم  
 و Immunoglobulins

### Serology of HBV

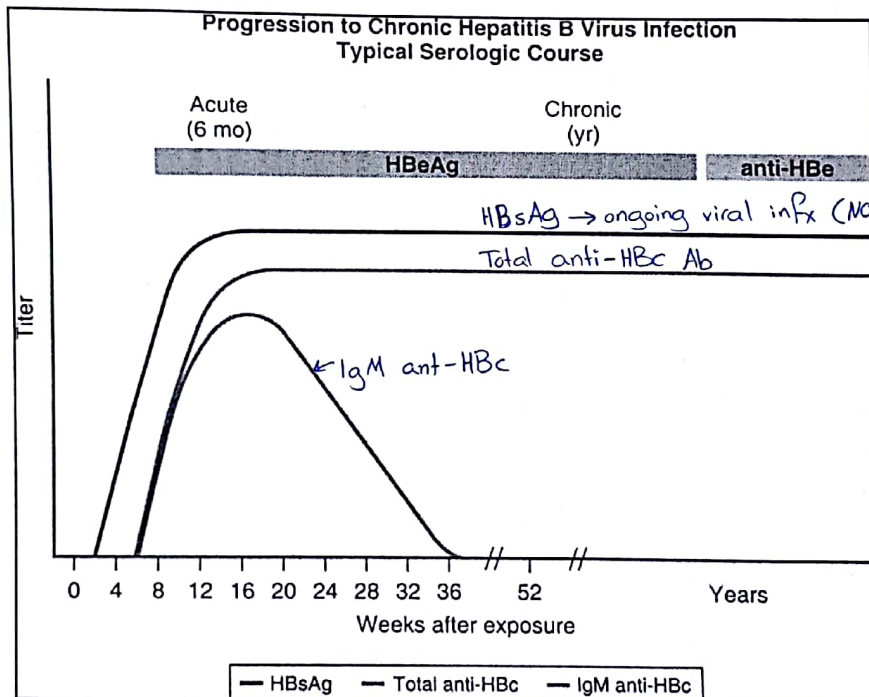
- Acute hepatitis: HBsAg < 6 months, HBcAb IgM
- HBeAg: correlate with high infectivity and viral replication  
HBe Ag +ve has higher rate of transmission than HBe Ag -ve
- HBcAb IgG remains positive after the infection regardless the outcome ( resolved or carrier or chronic phase)  
core بيب بدلي انه صار في وجود of a real live virus in the system
- Chronic HBV= persistence of HBsAg > 6 months

منفوق فتر بين  
 \* immunity due to vaccination and immunity due to infx by Hep B  
 → vaccination core -ve / surface +ve  
 → Infection core +ve / surface +ve

core -ve معناته vaccination  
 HBeAg +ve ال  
 بتنعطى الantiviral  
 و هي حامل



All antigens are -ve



## Serology of HBV

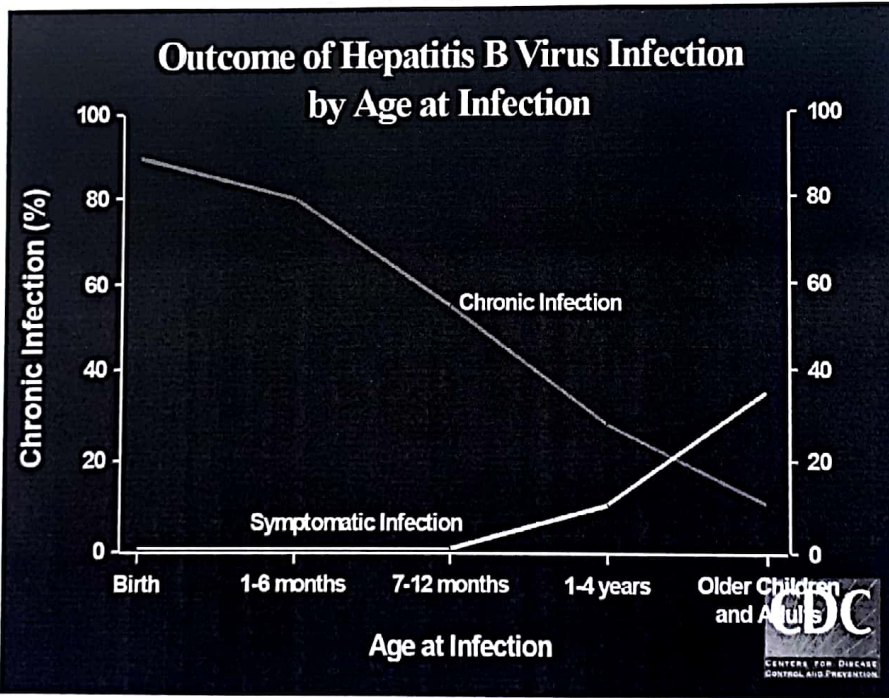
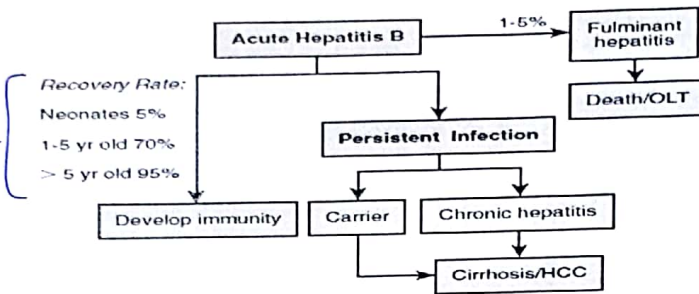
- Positive HBsAb only... Immunization by vaccine
- Positive HBsAb & HBcAb IgG... Immunization from Hep B viral infx
- Positive HBsAg >6 mo & normal liver enzymes and negative HBV DNA & negative HBeAg... Carrier state (Chronic) ← ~~Immune Hep A~~
- Positive HBsAg >6 mo & elevated liver enzymes and positive HBV DNA and +/- HBeAg... Chronic active hep
- ~~liver enzymes and positive HBV DNA and +/- HBeAg..~~
- liver enzymes normal and DNA +ve → immunotolerant

## Hepatitis B transmission

- The hepatitis B virus cannot penetrate unbroken skin and is killed by the digestive juices in the stomach if it is swallowed.
- There is a 95% chance that a mother with chronic hepatitis B will pass it on to her baby
- If a mother with hepatitis B passes on the virus to her baby at birth there is a 90% chance that the baby will go on to develop chronic (long term) hepatitis B.
- Babies born to hepatitis B positive mothers can be given vaccination and hepatitis B immunoglobulin at birth, which reduces the risk of hepatitis B transmission to only 5%
- Overall the risk of acquiring hepatitis B from needle-stick (or sharps) injury in a health care setting is around 30%.

## Natural course in Acute hepatitis B

كلما زاد العمر  
زيادة في recovery rate



The younger the age, the higher the chances of chronicity.

## Management of HBV

- Prevention → by vaccination and education and management of a baby w/ HBsAg +ve
- Prophylaxis → Immunoglobulins and vaccination
- Therapy
  - ↳ usually in children we don't give therapy we give therapy in the case of an active hep B (elevated liver enzymes)
  - 2x the normal  $\gamma$  GPT elevation  $\geq 1$  g  $\leftarrow$
  - for 6 months

antiviral meds. ~~interferons~~ ~~interferons~~ ~~interferons~~

## Prevention of Hepatitis B Infection

- Hepatitis B vaccine

- Recombinant DNA vaccine
  - HBsAg
  - 3 doses (0, 1 month, 6-12 months) ← على الـ ٠، ١، ٦-١٢ اشهر
  - Preterm
- HBsAg +ve



## Prevention of Hepatitis B Infection

- Hepatitis B- specific Immunoglobulin
  - Indications:
    - Contaminated needle-stick exposure
    - Perinatal exposure for newborns of positive HBsAg mothers within 12 hours after birth (in addition to first dose of HBV vaccine)
    - Pre and post liver transplant for HBsAg patient

## Treatment of HBV

- Acute infection (30% of pts)
  - supportive
  - Careful monitoring for encephalopathy and acute liver failure

بالإضافة إلى تناول دواء chronic J  
antiviral medications J و J interferons J

## Treatment of HBV

- Treatment is only indicated for patients in the immune-active
- Goals of Rx
  - converting to carrier state → get liver enzymes normal and Hep B DNA -ve
  - Eliminate the virus
  - Prevent progression to cirrhosis &/or HCC

## Treatment of HBV

- Indications for therapy
  - HBsAg positive for >6 mo
  - Evidence of ongoing viral replication (presence of HBeAg & HBV- DNA for at least 6 months).
  - ALT > twice upper limit of normal
  - Evidence chronic active hepatitis on liver biopsy.

# HEPATITIS C VIRUS

## Hepatitis C Virus

- RNA virus
- 6 genotypes → prognosis for each genotype is different
- 85% of infected cases remained chronic

↳ so we need to know the genotypes in order to give the medications

حالياً صار في

بعض و أوروبا

بسي بقدم على

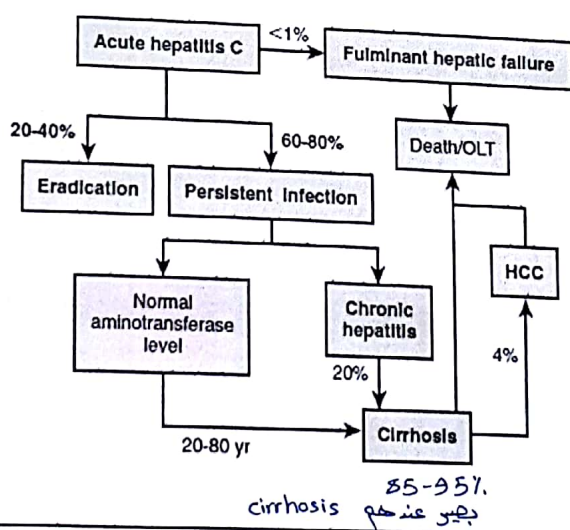
ال genotype

## FEATURES OF THE HEPATOTROPIC VIRUSES

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Chronic infection	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Fulminant disease	Rare	Yes	Rare	Yes	Yes

## Natural history of HCV infection

ما اليا علاقة بالعمر  
(مضى زي Hep B)



## Risk factors for HCV transmission

- blood transfusion
- Illegal drug use
- exposure to blood or blood products
- Sexual transmission
- Occupational exposure
- 10% of new infections has no known transmission source.

بس ال transmission mother-child ، ليهما ما في حدنا بقدر يحكيك  
1.1% بيسر في transmission لأنه نادر

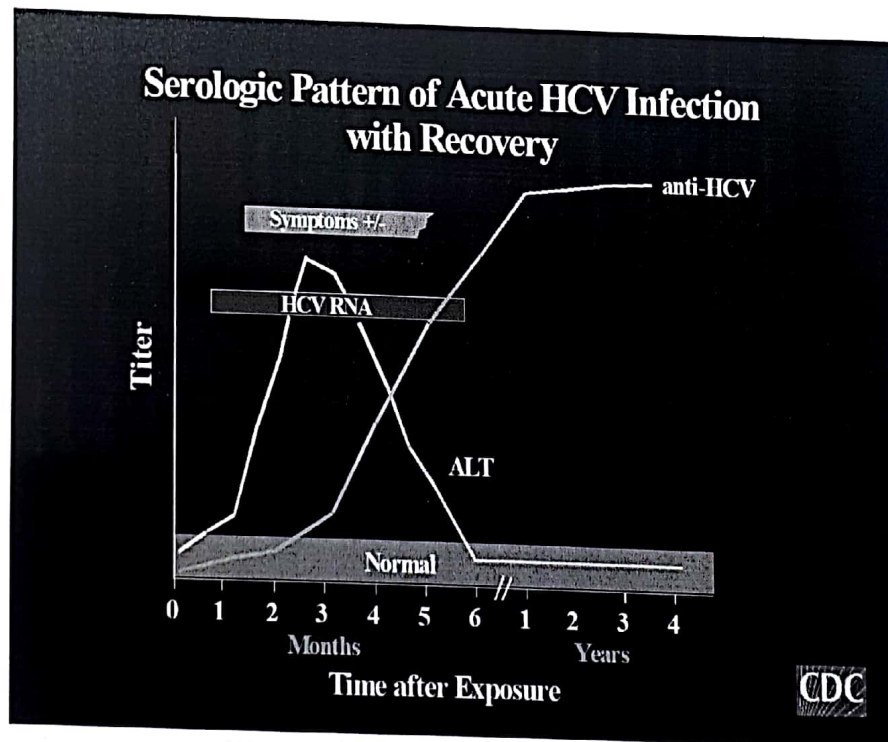
~~مع إنه في أطفال عندهم Hep C~~  
بس بيحوا على عمر 3 أو 4 سنين فصعب  
تحدد إنه هو من الأم أثناء الحمل أو الولادة  
ولا إياهم بغيرين

## Diagnosis of HCV infection

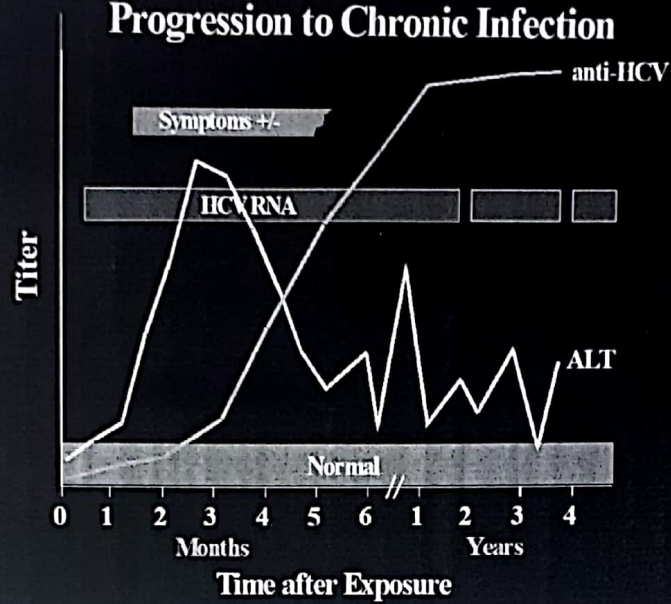
- HCV antibodies → ما بغيرين
  - HCV by PCR whenever we have infx for hep C we will have Abs  
بغيرين الأنف كان acute و recovery و chronic
- But whenever we have HCV PCR +ve → we have an ongoing infx

## Serology of HCV

- Positive HCV antibodies → exposed
- Acute infection PCR +ve
- Chronic infection PCR +ve > 6 mths
- Resolved infection → Ab +ve and PCR -ve (RNA)  
ALT and AST normal



## Serologic Pattern of Acute HCV Infection with Progression to Chronic Infection



## Prevention of Hepatitis C Virus Infection

- No protective immunoglobulin
- No vaccine available
- Precautions, behavioral modifications
- Prevention by screening donated blood

## Treatment of Hepatitis C virus

### Indications for treatment:

- Detectable HCV- RNA by PCR > 6 mo
  - Elevated ALT (hit on the liver)
  - Evidence of chronic hepatitis and fibrosis by liver biopsy
- ↳ because it may be curable depending on the genotype

## NON-VIRAL CHRONIC HEPATITIS

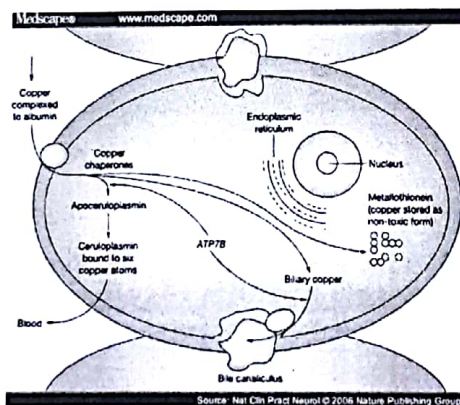


## WILSON DISEASE (HEPATOLENTICULAR DEGENERATION)

→ Age of presentation → 3 yrs old

المسألة بلا copper ← بغيرها  
 و ما يتطلع منها ← يجعل destruction للكبد و بغير في free copper in the blood  
 و يجعل hemolysis و بغير deposition بأعضاء ثانية زي العين و ال basal ganglia  
 و علا endocrine يجعل endocrinopathies (hypo or hyperthyroidism/DM) و القلب  
 ↳ cardiomyopathy

### Wilson's disease pathophysiology



\*Note  
 neurological manifestations  
 usually appear in  
 adulthood.

\*Normal ceruloplasmin  
 does not rule out  
 Wilson's, remember  
 that it's an acute  
phase reactant

\* Dx → Ceruloplasmin low

24 hr collection for urinary copper is ↑  
 ↳ if -ve we do chelation

Gold standard: Biopsy with dry weight copper level

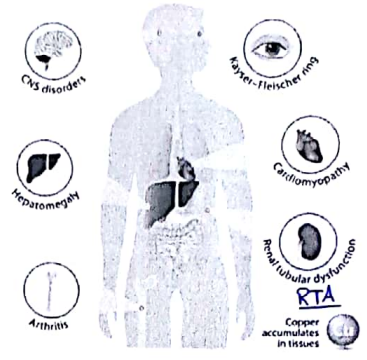
# Wilson's disease Clinical manifestations



→ using a slit lamp  
→ we can see it via the naked eye if it was severe

خامة باليون العتلة

## WILSON'S DISEASE



\* One of the causes of RTA is Wilson's disease

# Wilson disease

### Diagnosis

- low serum ceruloplasmin
- Elevated serum copper
- High 24 hr urine copper
- Quantitative copper in liver biopsy is the definitive diagnostic test

## Management of Wilson disease

- Compensated liver disease
- decompensated cirrhosis or fulminant liver failure → liver transplant
- Screen the siblings with ceruloplasmin or genetic mutation if it is known from proband case

- We give Zinc (because it ↓ copper absorption from the small intestine)  
and chelating agents

- what foods contain copper?  
everything basically  
especially pepsi, chocolate (especially dark)

## AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS

## Autoimmune hepatitis (AIH)

- Autoimmune hepatitis is...inflammation of the liver due to the presence of autoantibodies
  - elevated serum aminotransaminase concentrations, (AST and ALT elevated)
  - liver-associated serum autoantibodies, (anti-smooth ms. / anti-liver-kidney / anti-mitochondrial)
  - +/- hypergammaglobulinemia.
- Might be associated with other autoimmune diseases

## Autoimmune hepatitis (AIH)

### Clinical picture

- Asymptomatic elevation of liver enzymes → elevation for 6 months, we should look for autoantibodies
- Non-specific
- Jaundice
- Amenorrhea
- Stigmata of chronic liver disease
- extrahepatic manifestations
- features of cirrhosis ↳ other autoimmune diseases

2 types

VARIABLE	TYPE 1 AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS	TYPE 2 AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS
Characteristic autoantibodies	Antinuclear antibody*	Antibody against liver-kidney microsome 1*
	Smooth-muscle antibody*	
	Antiactin antibody <sup>1</sup>	Antibody against liver cytosol 1*
	Autoantibodies against soluble liver antigen and liver-pancreas antigen <sup>1</sup>	
	Atypical perinuclear antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibody	
Geographic variation	Worldwide	Worldwide; rare in North America
Age at presentation	Any age	Predominantly childhood and young adulthood
Sex of patients	Female in ~75% of cases	Female in ~95% of cases
Association with other autoimmune diseases	Common	Common <sup>2</sup>
Clinical severity	Broad range	Generally severe
Histopathologic features at presentation	Broad range	Generally advanced
Treatment failure	Infrequent	Frequent
Relapse after drug withdrawal	Variable	Common
Need for long-term maintenance	Variable	~100%

→ complicated  
 transplant علاج الكبد  
 نكبة جدي. ج. ج. ج.  
 \* mainly in females  
 \* mainly in childhood  
 \* Almost always associated w/ another autoimmune disease

\*In type one → we can stop the medication at some point but in type 2 we can NOT

## Diagnosis of AIH

- Elevation of transaminases
- Elevated gamma-globulin levels
- The presence of autoantibodies
- Characteristic histologic findings
  - \* ↪ - Plasma cell infiltrate
  - Bridging fibrosis between portal triads

## Treatment of AIH

by Immunosuppression

- Prednisone (steroids)
- Azathioprine or 6-mercaptopurine
- Liver transplantation for patients with end-stage liver disease
- Disease can recur after liver transplantation (especially in type 2)

Homework

## Dig up

- How do we screen blood for hepatitis b ?
- What medications are used to treatment of hepatitis B?
- What medications are used to treatment of hepatitis c?
- How to follow up patients with hepatitis C?