

Observations on the therapy of acute infectious hepatitis with Liv.52

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The liver holds a place of singular importance in maintaining human health. It controls numerous metabolic processes via the metabolic pool. Diseases of the liver have adverse effects on the entire system. Any drug that would help the hepatic function would be of great value to clinicians. There have been remarkable contributions to research and therapeutics but as yet, in allopathic medicine, there is no drug that stimulates the functions of the liver, protects it from damage or helps in the regeneration of hepatic cells.

Many published studies have reported favourably on the clinical and therapeutic response to Liv.52 (Himalaya Drug Co., Pvt Ltd.), in a wide variety of hepatic disorders. This study was undertaken to determine the therapeutic effects of Liv.52 in infectious hepatitis.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was carried out at the Hospital for children, Prince of Wales Patna Medical College and its out-patient department.

All the children in the study were admitted in the hospital. Their detailed history was taken and a thorough physical examination was done according to a previously planned proforma. They were subjected to routine investigations along with some specific biochemical tests for liver disorders. These were plasma proteins, serum alkaline phosphatase, thymol turbidity, serum bilirubin and SGPT. The children were given Liv.52 in adequate doses along with the usual general management of diet and nursing.

There were 36 cases of infectious hepatitis studied. Out of these there were 3 cases of subacute hepatic necrosis.

Age Distribution	
Age	No. of cases
1 – 5 years	12 cases
6 – 10 years	19 cases
11–12 years	5 cases

Sex distribution was almost equal with slight preponderance of males.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Symptoms	No. of cases
Tinging of conjunctiva	36
Yellow coloured urine	32
Loss of appetite	32
Digestive upset	30
Nausea or vomiting	23
Pain in abdomen	20
Irritability	20

Oedema legs	3
Signs	No. of signs
Jaundice	36
Enlarged liver	32
Tender liver	21
Pallor	17
Oedema	3
Ascites	1

The laboratory investigations revealed the following:

Serum Proteins	No. of cases
Less than 4 g%	1
Less than 4 – 5 g%	9
Less than 5 – 6 g%	20
Over 6 g%	6
	36

Serum Bilirubin	No. of cases
1 – 5 mg%	18
6 – 10 mg%	14
11 – 15 mg%	4
	36

SGPT Levels	No. of cases
Less than 100 units	3
101 – 200 units	17
201 – 300 units	10
Over 300 units	6
	36

The progress and response were noted clinically as well as by response to the laboratory tests and the jaundice gradually cleared up, appetite returned, liver tenderness gradually became less and the patients gradually recovered. Serum bilirubin and SGPT levels gradually but remarkably came down along with the clinical improvement. Blood proteins were not disturbed in some cases but where they were they took longer to return to normal.

Out of 36 patients one expired and the remaining 35 recovered. They were followed up and discharged as cured.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

1. Thirty six cases of Infectious Hepatitis were studied at Patna Medical College Hospital for the therapeutic effects of Liv.52.
2. Clinical and laboratory studies were made and progress was noted.
3. There was remarkable clinical and laboratory response towards recovery.
4. Thirty five patients were discharged cured and one expired.

Our conclusions are totally based upon our observations presented here. Liv.52 has a definite role in improving the clinical condition and appetite.