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HBsAg loss in HBeAg positive and HBeAg negative patients with chronic HBV treated with entecavir: A retrospective case series

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We retrospectively investigated our patients who have been followed up in our gastroenterology and infectious diseases clinic between 2007 and 2016. All the patients were followed up at least six months before therapy to ensure that they had chronic hepatitis B. Every patient had liver biopsy procedure to assess the liver pathology. Of the patients who were started entecavir treatment, 161 patients had enrolled for this retrospective assessment. All the patients had continuous treatment (0.5 mg/day or 1 mg/day). Of these patients 30 were HBeAg positive (24 males, 6 females) and 129 HBeAg negative patients (99 males, 30 females) with chronic HBV infection, treatment initiated starting from 2007 till 2016. All the follow-ups for liver biochemistry were done every three months and HBV DNA was assessed every six months. HBsAg was controlled yearly. Total of nine patients had HBsAg loss (5.5%) (three patients of HBeAg+, and five patients of HBeAg-). Overall, the mean time to HBsAg loss was 3 years±4.5 months in HBeAg (+) patients and 3.5 years±7.5 months in HBe Ag (-) group. In this case series, HBsAg loss was observed both in HBeAg positive patients and in HBeAg negative patients. All of the patients with HBsAg loss received entecavir as 0.5 mg. Our results are consistent with the previous reports. Therefore, it may be suggested that treatment with entecavir could be associated to HBsAg loss in a period of time, in both HBeAg positive and HBeAg negative HBV patients.

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