

HEPATITIS A

1. Which of the following statements is not true:
 - a) Humans are the only reservoir
 - b) HAV infection is usually a self-limited disease that does not become chronic
 - c) Fulminant hepatic failure is rare, but more common in patients older than 50 years and in patients with chronic hepatitis C infection
 - d) Maternal-fetal transmissions is common
 - e) HAV infection confers lifelong immunity and is preventable via vaccination

2. Typical manifestations include:
 - a) The incubation period of HAV averages 28 days (range 15 – 50 days)
 - b) Abrupt onset of nausea, vomiting, anorexia, fever, malaise, abdominal pain followed by jaundice and pruritis
 - c) Splenomegaly and extrahepatic manifestations such as arthritis, glomerulonephritis and vasculitis is common
 - d) Infected individuals are contagious during the incubation period and remain so for about a week after jaundice appears.
 - e) HAV does not become chronic and re-infection after recovery does not occur.

3. The diagnosis of HAV is established by the onset of prodromal symptoms, jaundice and supported by:
 - a) A positive serum IgM HAV antibody test
 - b) Raised serum aminotransferases (ALT/AST) often >1000 international units/dL
 - c) Raised serum bilirubin levels
 - d) Raised gamma GT serum levels typically ≥ 10 mg/dL
 - e) Normal levels of alkaline phosphatase

4. Alcoholic hepatitis is a non-infectious entity with presentations similar to HAV. Clinical features include jaundice, anorexia, fever, hepatomegaly and the following laboratory findings:
- a) Moderately elevated transaminases (typically less than 300 iu/mL)
 - b) Markedly raised transaminases (typically >1000 iu/dL)
 - c) Aspartate aminotransferase (AST) to alanine aminotransferase (ALT) ratio of two or greater.
 - d) Normal AST and raised ALT
 - e) None of the above
5. Vaccination protects against HAV infection, hygienic practices help to prevent HAV infection and there are indications for post exposure protection.
Which of the following is true:
- a) Vaccination prior to HAV exposure is not superior to immune globulin with respect to achieve antibody concentrations
 - b) Pregnant women cannot be vaccinated against HAV
 - c) Twinrix (Havrix - Hep A / Engerix B – Hep B) should not be given to children
 - d) Post exposure prophylaxis is not warranted in association with a single case of hepatitis A in a school, office or hospital
 - e) The Hepatitis A virus can be inactivated by heating food up to >85°C