

Aetiology of acute sporadic hepatitis in adults in Kenya

Abstract:

Markers for acute hepatitis A virus (HAV), hepatitis B virus (HBV), and hepatitis non-A, non-B (HNANB) infections were examined in the sera of 94 patients presenting with acute hepatitis in Kenya. Hepatitis B virus was responsible for 70% of cases, HNANB for 18%, and HAV for only 12%. The use of an IgM anti-HBc assay increased the rate of diagnosis of acute HBV infection, thereby reducing the proportion of cases designated as NANB.