

C 型肝炎的根治與治療後監測

Cure and post-treatment surveillance of hepatitis C

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Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection results in long-term liver outcomes including cirrhosis or hepatocellular carcinoma. The goal of treatment of HCV-infected persons is to reduce the all-cause mortality and liver related health adverse consequences, including end-stage liver disease and hepatocellular carcinoma, by the achievement of virological cure as evidenced by a sustained virological response (SVR). The clinical progress against HCV infection has to meet the goal to eradicate HCV infection.

With developed regimens for CHC, a high SVR rate was achieved by the pegylated interferon/ribavirin therapy, particularly in Taiwan. Currently all oral DAA therapy achieved very high SVR rates with fewer adverse effects than IFN. Further refining the individualized therapy seems necessary after the all oral DAA therapy or the new generation DAAs are available for patients. The Taiwanese National Health Insurance has reimbursed two all-oral DAA regimens for HCV, with a very high SVR rate. Careful evaluation of the patients' conditions before therapy is mandatory. After treatment, patients failed to respond to therapy need further monitoring and may try to be cured by retreatment. For patients with SVR, regular follow-up seems also necessary since the occurrence of HCC is not completely prevented and remains an unresolved issue. Moreover, some reports with more severe recurrence for patients who have existed HCC before DAAs therapy for HCV have been noticed. Studies to exploring the predicting factors of HCC development are still warrant. Also the special populations of HCV infections need to be re-defined. For example, Patients with HBV/HCV coinfection with DAAs therapy for CHC may experience the reactivation of HBV infection, either virological or biological points of view. Also, reinfection of HCV after cure is possible.

Elimination of HCV infection by 2030 is the major task supported by WHO. The war against HCV infection has a good achievement now and keeps going which needs the team work of all the professionals, government and non-government organizations.