医薬品 研究報告 調査報告書

		報告日	第一報入手日	新医薬品等の区分	厚生労働省処理欄
哉別番号・報告回数			2004年11月26日	該当なし	
一般的名称	売名(企業名) 別紙のとおり		Molecular and serol transfusion transmit virus	ted hepatitis A	国
反 売 名(企 業 名)			Transfusion 2004Nov Peter Gowland, Stefa Chirstoph Niederhau	ano Fontana, スイ user 他	
(問題点:献血後	に A 型肝炎を発症した供血者とは	に血者からの赤血球ユニッ	小の輸血を受けた受血者	たついて、RT-PCR を行っ	たと 使用上の注意記載状況・
ころ、両者から検	出された HAV RNA 塩基配列解析の	の結果は同じであり、輸血	による HAV 感染が初め	て証明された。)	その他参考事項等
症例報告		•			記載なし
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一定期間に限つ	て生存し、増幅することが出来る。				
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	長) に従い、原料への混入の可能性のあるウイルスを考慮したモデルウイルスを用いて実施したウイルスバリデーションにより、各種ワ
1	イルスの除去・不活化効果を確認している。HAVはウイルス・プロセスバリデーション試験において、除去・不活化効果を確認している。
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報告企業の意見	程が有効と考えられる。また、これまでに本剤によるA型肝炎感染の報告はなく、弊所の血漿分画製剤のA型肝炎ウイルスに対する安全性
	は高いレベルで確保されているものと考える。
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TRANSFUSION COMPLICATIONS

Molecular and serologic tracing of a transfusion-transmitted hepatitis A virus

Peter Gowland, Stefano Fontana, Christoph Niederhauser, and Behrouz Mansouri Taleghani

BACKGROUND: The transmission of hepatitis A virus (HAV) via blood transfusion has not been evidenced by molecular tracing so far.

CASE REPORT: A 33-year-old asymptomatic female volunteer made a whole-blood donation. Thirteen days later an acute HAV infection was diagnosed. Retrospectively, a high viral load was measured by quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) in the quarantine fresh-frozen plasma (1.4 \times 10 8 geg/mL), whereas immunoglobulin M (IgM) and G (IgG)/IgM anti-HAV were not detectable and the alanine aminotransferase levels not elevated. The red blood cells have just been transfused on Day 14. The 63-year-old male recipient already was HAV seropositive. He did not develop clinical symptoms of HAV and anti-HAV IgM was not detected. Seventy-five days later, a 25-fold increase in the anti-HAV IgG/IgM titer was observed. Demonstrable HAV ribonucleic acid (RNA) in the recipient by means of RT-PCR on Day 6, but not on Days 1 and 75, suggests that a transient reinfection dld occur. Analyzed sequences of the HAV RNA in the donor and recipient were identical. CONCLUSION: For the first time, transfusion-transmitted HAV was evidenced by molecular and serologic tracing. The transmitted HAV can survive and replicate for a limited period despite the presence of anti-HAV IgG.

ABBREVIATION: NCBI = National Center for Biotechnology Information

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epatitis A virus (HAV), the most common cause of acute viral hepatitis, is transmitted primarily by the fecal-oral route. Viremia is not found in the first days after infection, but appears 1 to 2 weeks before the onset of clinical symptoms and decreases during the icteric phase.1-3 The peak of viral load appears 1 to 3 weeks before the maximum rise of alanine aminotransferase (ALT) levels. Consequently, although a rare occurrence, parenteral transmission of HAV via blood donation in the short time of viremia before onset of symptoms is possible and has been associated with transfusion of whole blood, fresh-frozen plasma (FFP), platelet concentrates, and red blood cells (RBCs)4-16 (Table 1). However, to our knowledge this is the first report of tracing the transmission of the HAV from the donor to the recipient by means of molecular and serologic methods.

Neutralizing immunoglobulin M (IgM) antibodies to HAV appear during the icteric phase of infection and disappear between 2 and 6 months later. During the recovery phase, the IgG antibody response emerges (mean titer, 15,000 U/L) and persists lifelong (mostly >10 U/L). Because neither a chronic HAV infection nor a relapse of a fecal-oral-acquired HAV has been reported, the presence of HAV antibodies are believed to confer a permanent immunity. The acquisition of a HAV relapse or of a chronic HAV infection in anti-HAV IgG-positive patients after transfusion of HAV-contaminated blood components, by theoretically overwhelming the immune response of the recipient, has also never been described. The effect of parenteral transmission of HAV on the immune response of a HAV-immunocompetent recipient has not been adequately studied. In this report we present the case of a transfusion of a HAV-contaminated RBC concentrate to a patient with anti-HAV IgG. The clinical course, antibody response, and evidence of identity of the virus in the donor and the recipient are shown.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Serologic and enzymatic procedures

ALT testing. The measurement of ALT in serum was determined using commercial reagents according to the

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	Donor (D)		Recipient	(R)		
Reference	Characteristics	Time* (days)	Characteristics	Time* (days)	Components	Other particularities
Meyers et al., 1974 ¹⁶	26 D possibly implicated: hepatitis, elevated ALT; HAV serology: NT	22-37	R: all BMT†, hepatitis, elevated ALT; HAV serology: NT	NA .	PLT‡, plasma	Transmission to R and other D via PLT- and plasmapheresis using an open system; enteral transmission to other family and staff members; HAV serology: NT
Seeberg et al., 1981*	1 D: hepatitis, IgM+	11	1-month-old child, no hepatitis, IgM+	28	Whole blood	Transmission via blood exchange (hemolytic disease of the newborn); enteral transmission to mother and staff members (hepatitis, IgM+)
Barbara et	1 D: hepatitis, IgM+, 8 months	18	1 R; hepatitis; 6 months later	22	Whole blood	
al., 1982 ⁵ Skidmore et al., 1982 ⁶	1 D: hepatitis, IgM+	15	1 R: hepatitis, IgM+	21	Whole blood:	-
Hollinger et al., 1983 ¹⁴	D: death of fulminant hepatitis, HAV detected in liver and FFP	7 ·	10-year-old girl: hepatitis, IgM+	31	RBC	Corresponding FFP transfused in a chimpanzee: hepatitis, fecal HAV+; lgM+, incubation 23 days
Noble et al., 1984 ¹²	1 D: hepatitis, IgM+	7	11 neonate R: no symptoms, 2 out of 11 R IgM+	NA	RBC	Emeral transmission to 2 further neonates and to family and staff members
Sherertz et al., 1984	1 D: hepatitis, IgM+	9	1 out of 8 R: hepatitis, IgM+,	ΝA	FFP	6 neonate R received Immune serum globulin prophylaxis
Ishikawa et al., 1984	D: hepatitis, elevated ALT; igM+	10	1 FFP R: hepatitis, elevated ALT, IgM+	49	FFP, RBC	1 ABC R: IgQ+, no hepatitis, IgM-
Azimi et al., 1986 ¹⁰	1 D: hepatitis, IgM+	NA	2 infants, no hepatitis, IgM+	, NA	RBC	Enteral transmission from one infam to mother an
Glacoia et al., 1989 ¹¹	1 D: hepatitis, elevated ALT, lgM+	6	6 Infant R of RBC: all asymptomatic; 4/6 IgM+, 2/6 IgG+; 1 PLT R: elevated ALT	۱ NA	1 RBC, 1 PLT	R of RBC: enteral transmission to 4 newborns, (asymptomatic, IgM+), and to family and hospital staff members R of PLT: enteral transmission to partner; asymptomatic, IgM+
Nigro et al., 1990 ¹⁸	1 D; hepatitis, IgM+	14	1 R: hepatitis, elevated ALT and ASTS, IgM+	-13	NA	_
Lee et al., 1992 ⁷	1 D: hepatilis, elevated ALT and AST, IgM+	16	3 neonates: 1 IgM+, 2 death 1-2 days later for other reasons.	NA	FFP	Enteral transmission to mother (hepatitis, elevated AST and ALT, IgM+), father and 9 nurses (hepatitis, IgM+)
Diwan et al., 2003 ¹⁰	1 D; hepatitis, 1gM+	_ 15	1 RBC R and 1 FFP R: elevated ALT and AST, IgM+	26 (RBC) <55 (FFP)	1 RBC 1 FFP	A1

Time = days elapsed between donation and outbreak of hepatitis (in donors) and incubation time after transfusion (in recipients).
 BMT = borie marrow transplant.
 PLT = platelets.
 AST = aspartate aminotransferase.

International Federation of Clinical Chemistry (IFCC) method without pyridoxalphosphate activation and incubation at 37°C (Roche Diagnostics AG, Rotkreuz, Switzerland).

HAV antibodies assays. The presence of anti-HAV IgM and total (IgG/IgM) HAV antibodies was determined by two commercial enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (HAVAB-M 2.0 and HAVAB 2.0, AxSYM, Abbott Laboratories, Baar, Switzerland). The qualitative total HAV antibody test was used as a basis for a semiquantification analysis of the HAV total antibody response. Serial dilutions of the patient's sera diluted in HAV-negative human plasma were tested with the commercial assay to obtain an endpoint titer of the undiluted sera.

Molecular procedures

Real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) amplification. Ribonucleic acid (RNA) from 800 µL of plasma and serum was extracted using a kit (Qiagen Virus BioRobot 9604 kit, Qiagen, Basel, Switzerland) modified for a Tecan Genesis platform (Tecan AG, Männedorf, Switzerland) and eluted in 80 µL of elution buffer AVE.

Primer and probes for the real-time RT-PCR analysis were chosen from the conserved region of the 5' noncoding region (NCR) of the HAV genome using software (Primer Express, Applied Biosystems, Rotkreuz, Switzerland). The following were chosen: forward primer: HAV-5'-1F (5'-TTAGCATGGAGCTGTAGGAGTCTAA-3'); reverse primer: HAV-5'-249R (5'-ACTCAATGCATCCACTGGATGA-3'); HAV probe: HAV-5-216 (5'-FAM-TTGTTAAGACAAA AACCATTCAACGCCGG-BHQ-3').

All RT-PCR amplifications were performed using a kit (Qiagen Onc-Step RT-PCR, Qiagen) on a sequence detection system (ABI Prism 7700 Sequence Detection System, Applied Biosystems). The reaction mixture (final volume, 50 μL) was prepared in a single tube as follows: 10 μL One-Step, RT-PCR buffer (Qiagen), 300 nmol/L forward primer, 600 nmol/L reverse primer (Applied Biosystems), 200 nmol/L probe (Biosearch Technologies Inc, Novato, CA), 400 nmol/L deoxynucleoside triphosphates (Qiagon), 0.5 μΙ. 5 pmol/μΙ poly (T)6-ROX (MycroSynth AG, Balgach, Switzerland), 2 µL enzyme mix, and 20 µL extracted RNA. HAV RNA was reverse-transcribed into complementary deoxyribonucleic acid (cDNA) (30 min at 50°C) and the 249-bp fragment was amplified by PCR (15 sec at 94°C and 30 sec at 60°C) for 50 cycles (ABI Prism 7700, Applied Biosystems, Rotkreuz, Switzerland). Each assay included a 5 ×10⁻⁵ dilution poliovirus Sabin Type 3 (99/740 NIBSC, Potters Bar, UK), which served as an internal control for the extraction, reverse transcription, amplification, and detection steps. An RNA quantification standard representing 1204 nucleotides of the 5' HAV genome was prepared by digesting the plasmid pCL5 (whole HAV genome of strain HM175 in vector pGEM1) with the restriction

enzyme BstEII. RNA was synthesized using SP6 RNA polymerase and the Riboprobe SP6 system (Promega, Catalys AG, Wallisellen, Switzerland) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Any contaminating DNA was eliminated using RNase-free DNase 1 enzyme supplied with the Riboprobe kit. The RNA was purified by LiCl₂ precipitation and spectrofluorometrically quantified using a kit (Ribogreen RNA quantification kit, Molecular Probes, Juro AG, Luzern, Switzerland). The concentration of the RNA starting solution was 10tz RNA geq per mL. Serial 10x dilutions in 1 µg per mL poly A RNA (Amersham Biosciences Europe GmbH, Otelfingen, Switzerland) were divided in aliquots and stored at -70°C. Copy numbers of the experimental RNAs were calculated after real-time amplification from the linear regression of the standard curve derived from the cycle threshold values of the standard RNA serial dilutions. The sequence of the in-vitro transcript was confirmed by sequencing of the plasmid DNA template. The sensitivity of the real-time HAV RT-PCR assay was 14 IU per mL, 518 geq per mL. It was determined using the World Health Organization International Standard 00/560 (NIBSC, Potters Bar, UK).

Qualitative seminested PCR amplification. The PCR product of the real-time RT-PCR was used as the template for the seminested PCR. The primers for the seminested PCR were chosen as described above. The following were chosen: forward primer: HAV-5'-330F (5'-GTTTGGAA CGTCACCTTGCAGT-3'); reverse primer: HAV-5'-249R (5'-ACTCAATGCATCCACTGGATGA-3').

The reaction mixture (final volume, 50 µL) was prepared in a single tube as follows: 5 µL 10× Hot-Start PCR buffer (Qiagen), 300 nmol/L forward and reverse primers (Applied Biosystems), 200 µmol/L deoxynucleoside triphosphates (Amersham Biosciences Europe GmbH), 2 units Hot-Start Taq polymerase, and 1 µL PCR product. The 209-bp fragment was amplified by PCR (20 sec at 94°C and 30 sec at 60°C) for 50 cycles (9700 Thermal cycler, Applied Biosystems). The reaction was resolved on a 2 percent agarose gel and visualized by ethidium bromide fluorescence. The sensitivity of the qualitative seminested HAV PCR assay was 1.4 IU per mL, 50 geq per mL. It was determined using the World Health Organization International Standard 00/560 (NIBSC, Potters Bar, UK).

HAV nucleic acid sequencing. An aliquot of the amplified RT-PCR products was directly sequenced using both the forward and reverse HAV primers (ABI PRISM 310 Genetic Analyzer, Applied Biosystems). Nucleotide sequences were aligned with software (MultAlin Toulose, France)¹⁷ and compared to the sequences deposited in the NCBI GenBank (National Center for Biotechnology Information, National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD).

Case report and results

Donor. During summer 2001, a 33-year-old female donated blood 3 days after returning from a 2-week vaca-

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 VL)	Anti-HAV IdM	Anti-HAV IgG/IgM	HCV-PCR	Anti-HCV	Anti-HBc*	HBsAg†	HAV-PCR (geq/mL)
 12 188 17	**************************************	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	NT NT	NT -	NT	NT -	1.4 × 10 ⁴ (FFP NT 1.4 × 10 ⁴

tion in Italy, where she often consumed seafood. At the time of donation she felt healthy and showed no symptoms of hepatitis. ALT levels and anti-HAV at the day of blood donation were in the normal range and negative, respectively, and the routine screening for infectious agents did not suggest any active hepatitis infection. On Day 10 after her return, she developed headache, nausea, malaise, fatigue, and abdominal pain, however, these symptoms improved 2 days later. On Day 14, she had a recurrence of the same symptoms and in addition suffered from an appetite loss, dark urine, and jaundice. She consulted her local doctor who diagnosed an acute HAV infection, which was subsequently confirmed by an elevated ALT (1988 U/mL) and positive HAV IgM test in her serum (Table 2). On Day 16 the blood transfusion service was informed of the assumed HAV-contaminated blood donation. This prompted the immediate recall of components distributed from the donation. However, RBCs had already been transfused on Day 14. Retrospective analysis of the donated quarantine FFP revealed a HAV RNA level of 1.4×10^6 geq per mL, whereas in the initial stored serum of the donor the HAV IgM and total HAV antibody levels were negative and the ALT levels were not elevated (Table 2). HAV viremia regressed partially on Day 22, when clinical symptoms of HAV still persisted. Repeated tests for hepatitis B and C remained negative. Two months later she showed a complete clinical recovery.

Recipient. A 63-year-old man with oral squamous. cell carcinoma was operated on in the summer of 2001. During and after surgery he received six units of white blood cell (WBC)-depleted (<106 WBCs/unit) RBCs, including the batch from the HAV-infected donor. The unit was transfused 14 days after donation. Retrospectively the patient was found to be HAV-seropositive beforehis operation. He did not develop postoperative clinical complications and did not show any clinical symptoms for an active hepatitis infection. Analysis of serum samples taken I day, 6 days, and 75 days after transfusion revealed a rising HAV total antibody titer with a 25-fold increase in the latter sample. In addition, a positive HAV RT-PCR result was obtained at Day 6, whereas no HAV RNA was detected on Days 1 and 75 (Table 3), suggesting that a short-term reinfection did occur. Sequences of the HAV RNA detected in the donor and the recipient were identi-

TABLE 3. Transfusion-transmitted HAV: laboratory results from the recipient								
Days after transfusion	ALT (U/L)	Anti-HAV	Anti-HAV lgG/lgM titer	HAV-PCR (qualitative				
-1	20	NT	NT	NT				
1 .	NT		1:125					
6	34	<u> </u>	1:625	4				
75	NT		1:3125					

cal (Fig. 1). Compared to the wild-type HAV strain (HM175), 2 bp exchanges (both T to C) were observed over the length of the 209 bp RT-PCR product. None of the HAV sequences deposited to date in the NCBI GenBank are identical to the sequenced PCR product of the HAV identified from the patient and recipient.

DISCUSSION

HAV is the only known hepatotropic member of the enterovirus family. It is composed of a 27-nm protein shell surrounding a single-stranded RNA genome. In over 80 percent of cases, an infection with HAV is asymptomatic; however, <1.5 percent of the symptomatic cases develop into fatal fulminant hepatitis with acute liver failure. If symptomatic, the clinical course of a HAV infection include an asymptomatic, a prodromal, an icteric, and finally a recovery phase. Infrequently, a biphasic or relapsing clinical course occurs. 20-23 To date there has only been one single report of a supposed chronic HAV infection. 24

The risk of transfusion-transmitted HAV is considered to be low because of the short asymptomatic viremia and a lack of a carrier state. Limited evidence from epidemiologic studies and retrospective case reports support this hypothesis. In spite of several reports proving transmission of HAV by plasma-derived coagulation factor VIII or factor IX concentrates to hemophilia patients. ^{25,27} the majority of the epidemiologic studies have failed to show a higher prevalence of anti-HAV in either chronically transfused patients or persons with hemophilia. ^{26,51} This may further suggest that chronic transfusion could also confer passive immunity by means of HAV IgG antibodies present in the blood components.

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Patient	GTTTGG	ÄACGTCACC	TTGCAGTGTT	aacttggct <u>C</u>	тсатела <u>С</u> ст	CTTTGATCT	TCCACAAGGG	STAGGCTACG	GGTGAA
Donor	GITTGG	AACGTCACC	rtgcagtgtt.	aacttggct <u>C</u>	TCATGAACC	CTTTGATCT	TCCACAAGGG	TAGGCTACG	ggtgaa
WT (HM175)	GTTTGG	AACGTCACC	TTGCAGTCTT.	aacttggct <u>T</u>	TCATGAA ^T CT	CTTTGATCT	rccacaaggg	TAGGCTACG	GGTGAA
, , ,		1.		. •	•		•		
	81 	. 90	100	110 	120	130	140 	150	160
Patlent	ACCTCT	TAGGCTAAT	actictatga.	AGAGATGCCT	TGGATAGGGTA	ACAGCGGCG	GATATTGGTGA	GTTGTTAAG	ACAAA
Donor	ACCTCT	TAGGCTAAT	acttctatga.	agagatgcct	tggatagggt <i>i</i>	ACAGCGGCG	GATATTGGTQA	GTTGTTAAG!	ACAAA
WT (HM175)	ACCTCT	TAGGCTAAT	ACTTCTATGA	AGAGATGCCT	TGGATAGGGTA	ACAGCGGCG	gatattggtga	GTTGTTAAG!	ACAAA
	161	170	180	190	200 	209			
Patient	AACCAT	TCAACGCCG	CAGGACTGAC	CTCATCCAG	TOGATGCATTG	AGT		• •	
Donor WT (HM175)				•	iggatgcattg iggatgcattg				

Fig. 1. Sequence analysis of the RT-PCR product from the patient, donor, and wild-type (WT) strain (HM175). The analyzed nucleic acid sequences of the viruses detected in the FFP and the recipient blond are identical, whereas they differ from that of the wild type.

There are a limited number of reports of transfusion-transmitted HAV, either in single adult patients or epidemics in neonatal care units (Table 1). During epidemic outbreaks, which often pose significant containment problems to prevent secondary infections in hospital personnel and within the patients' families, the transmission occurred both by transfusion of infectious blood components to children and successively by enteric route to the nurses or family members of the infected children. 47,11-13 In all these cases, the temporal coincidence of clinical symptoms and serologic findings by donors and recipients was highly suspicious for a transfusion-related transmission. However, complete molecular and serologic tracing from the donor via the blood products to the recipient was never reported.

HAV is most frequently transmitted by the fecal-oral route.³² Viremia reaches the highest level 1 to 20 days before the ALT peak and decreases during and after the icteric phase.¹⁻³ Consequently, risk of parenteral transmission of HAV by blood donation is greatest in the short period before the onset of symptoms. This is in accordance with almost all serologically documented cases of transfusion-transmitted HAV, where donations occurred between 6 and 18 days before the onset of clinical symptoms (Table 1). In all of these reports, the suspected donor developed an anti-HAV IgM immune response with or without clinical and laboratory signs of hepatitis. In our

case the blood donation occurred 7 days before the onset of clinical symptoms in the donor. In agreement with the literature, we found the highest concentration of HAV at the donation day. Twenty-two days after donation, during the phase of clinical illness, viremia was still present but clearly regressing (Table 2).

Parenteral transmission and infectivity of HAV was demonstrated in primates, but in only one single case reported by Holliger et al. has human blood been shown to be infectious. The recipient of a RBC unit developed an acute hepatitis 31 days after transfusion. The blood donor died 1 week after blood donation with fulminant HAV. Infectivity of the correspondingly donated plasma could be demonstrated after inoculation in a chimpanzee. The appearance of a HAV relapse or a chronic HAV infection in anti-HAV IgG-positive patients after blood transfusion has never been described.

Normally, neutralizing IgM antibodies to IHAV first appear in the icteric phase and disappear 2 to 6 months later, 1,32 whereas IgG antibodies appear during the recovery phase and are detectable lifelong. 32 Antibodies to HAV are found in a substantial part of the adult population, indicating a frequent subclinical exposure to the virus. Although the highest titers of anti-HAV are found in recently infected persons (mean, 15,000 U/L), the estimated minimum protective level after active immunization is about 10 U per L. 33 In addition, because a chronic

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course of HAV infection has only been supposed once²⁴ and a relapse from a fecal-oral acquired HAV is unknown, anti-HAV is believed to confer a permanent immunity. For this reason infectivity is limited to the initial phase of HAV infection. Only a few cases of a biphasic course of HAV were published.²⁰⁻²³ In these cases, the clinical relapse occurred several weeks after the first icteric phase and was associated with a second ALT peak. In spite of the appearance of neutralizing antibodies during the first clinical phase and the disappearance of the virus from the feces and blood, it reappeared in both during relapse. In these cases viremia lasted up to 1 year after the initial ALT peak, indicating the possibility that the virus can partially escape neutralizing antibodies.

Ishikawa et al. reported the only case of a HAVcontaminated blood unit transfused in an immunocompetent recipient. After transfusion of a RBC component, the donor developed symptoms of an acute HAV infection. The anti-HAV IgG-positive recipient neither developed hepatitis nor anti-HAV IgM." In our patient we observed a transient viremia after transfusion of a HAV-contaminated RBC unit. He developed a 25-fold increase in his anti-HAV IgM/IgG titer. The inability to detect HAV RNA by RT-PCR the day after transfusion, whereas it was detected 5 days later, is hardly compatible with a transient, passive persistence of HAV in the recipient. On the contrary this suggests a reinfection with active HAV replication, which was controlled by an immediate strong humoral immune response. In addition, the analyzed nucleic acid sequences of the viruses detected in the FFP and the recipient were identical, whereas they differed from that of the wild-type virus HM175 and all the HAV sequences deposited in the NCBI GenBank, further demonstrating transmission of the virus by transfusion (Fig. 1).

For the first time, we have demonstrated by means of molecular and serologic tracing that HAV can be transmitted from a labile blood component to a recipient by transfusion, and the transmitted virus can survive and replicate for a short time even in an immunocompetent host and induce a significant immune response.

Our results and the data reported in the literature do not allow the evaluation of the incidence of transfusion-transmitted HAV and the implication for transfusion safety. However, because the clinical consequences for the recipient are great and the fact that there always exists a period between infection and the onset of clinical symptoms during which serologic, enzyme, or nucleic acid markers of infection are negative, measures in the donor selection procedures are usually established to prevent possible transmission. Particularly, these include a careful donor anamnosis and questionnaire, informing donors to contact the blood donation service if they become ill after donation, and starting a look-back study if either donor or patient develop symptoms compatible with HAV infection.

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Molecular and serologic tracing of a transfusion-transmitted hepatitis A virus 輸血感染による A 型肝炎ウイルスの分子及び血清学的追跡 Peter Gowland, Stefano Fontana, Chirstoph Niederhauser 他情報源: Transfusion Volume 44, November 2004/11/29

背景

これまで、分子追跡による輸血を介したA型肝炎(HAV)感染は立証されていない.

症例報告

無症候の33歳の女性ボランティアが献血を行った. その13日後に,彼女は急性 HAV 感染の診断を受けた. 遡及的に調査を行ったところ,隔離新鮮凍結血漿には高いウイルス量(1.4X10⁶ geq/mL)が測定されたのに対し,免疫グロブリン M(IgM)と G(IgG)/ IgM 抗 HAV は検出できず,アラニン・アミノトランスフェラーゼ量上昇も認めなかった. ちょうど 14日目に赤血球輸血を受けた63歳の男性患者は,既に HAV 抗体陽性であった. 彼は HAV の臨床的症状を呈せず,抗 HAV IgM は検出されなかった. 75日後,抗 HAV IgG/IgM 抗体価の25倍上昇を確認した. RT-PCRを行い,HAVRNAが1日目と75日目には見られなかったが,6日目にはっきりと見られたことは,一時的な再感染が起こったことを示している. 供血者と患者のHAV RNA 塩基配列解析の結果は同じであった.

結果

分子及び血清学的追跡によって、輸血で感染した HAV が初めて証明された. 伝播した HAV は抗 HAV IgG が存在したにも関わらず、一定期間に限って生存し、増幅することが出来る.

ウイルス性急性肝炎の最も一般的な原因である A 型肝炎ウイルス(HAV)は主に糞口経路で伝播する. ウイルス血症は、感染の1日目には認められないが、臨床的症状を発現する1~2週間前に現れ、そして黄疸期で減少する. ALT 値上昇が最高となる1~3週間前にウイルス量はピークに達する. このため、発生は稀であるが、症状発現前のウイルス血症の短期間のうちに献血を介した HAV の非経口感染が可能であり、それは、全血、新鮮凍結血漿(FFP)、濃縮血小板、赤血球(PBCs)の輸血とこれまで関係してきた. しかしながら、私達の知る限りでは、本報告が、供血者から患者へのHAV伝播を分子及び血清学的方法によって追跡した最初の報告である.

HAVに対する免疫グロブリンM (IgM)中和抗体は感染の黄疸期に現れ、2~6ヶ月後に消滅する. 回復期に IgG 抗体反応(平均力価、15,000 U/L)が現れ、それは生涯にわたり継続する(通常 >10 U/L). 慢性 HAV 感染及び糞口を介した HAV 感染再発のどちらも報告されていないことから、HAV 抗体の存在が永久的免疫を付与すると考えられる. HAV 汚染の血液成分投与を受けた後に、理論的に受血者の免疫を打ち負かして抗 HAV IgG 陽性患者が HAV を再発したり、また慢性的に HAV 感染したことは今迄に一度も発表されたことはない. HAV 非経口感染が HAV 免疫を保持している患者の免疫反応に及ぼす影響についてはまだ十分に研究がなされていない。 私達は本報告において、HAV に汚染された濃縮赤血球を抗 HAV-IgG 陽性患者への輸血症例を発表する. 臨床経過、抗体反応、そして供血者と受血者のウイルスが同一であることを証明する.

症例報告と結果

供血者

2001年の夏に、イタリアで2週間の休暇を過ごした33歳の女性が帰国から3日後に献血を行った. 彼女はそこでよく海産物を食していた. 献血を行った時,彼女は健康と感じており,また肝炎症状も示していなかった. 献血当日には、ALT値は正常範囲にあり,抗HAV抗体は陰性であった. また,感染性因子をスクリーニングする通常検査では,活動性の肝炎感染を全く示唆していなかった. 帰国から10日後に,彼女は頭痛,吐き気,けん怠感,疲れ,そして異常な痛みを呈した. しかし,それから2日後にこれらの症状は好転した. 14日後,彼女は同じ症状の再発に併せて,食欲の消失,暗色尿,そして黄疸症状が出た. 彼女は掛かり付けの地元の医者を訪れた. その医者は急性 HAV 感染と診断した. その後その診断は,彼女の血清中の上昇した ALT(1988 U/L)と陽性 HAV IgM 検査によって確認された(Table 2). 16日目,HAVに汚染されたと思われる献血報告が献血サービスに対し行われた. このことが,その献血由来成分の速やかな回収を促した. しかしながら,赤血球は14日目に既に輸血されていた. 最初に保存された供血者血清は,HAV IgM と総 HAV 抗体値は陰性を示し,また ALT値上昇もしていなかったのに対し,献血された検疫新鮮凍結血漿の HAV RNA が mL 当り1.4X10⁶ ゲノム相当量であることが,遡及分析により分かった. 依然としてHAV の臨床的症状が続いていた22日目に HAV 血症は部分的に後退した. 繰り返し行った B型と C型肝炎の検査は引き続き陰性を示した. 2ヶ月後,彼女は臨床的に完治した.

受血者(患者)

口腔へん平上皮癌の63歳男性が2001年の夏に手術を受けた. HAV 感染供血者のバッチを含む,白血球を除いた6ユニット(<106 WBCs/unit)の RBC 投与を彼は手術中と術後に受けた. そのユニットは献血後14日に輸血された. 患者は手術前に HAV 血清反応陽性であったことが遡及的に分かった. 彼は術後の合併症を呈さず,また活動性の肝炎感染の症状も示していなかった. 献血から1日,6日,75日後に採取した血清検体を分析し,最後に採取した検体において HAV 総抗体力価が25倍上昇したことが明らかになった. さらに,1日と75日後には HAV RNA は得られなかったが,6日目に PT-PCR の HAV 陽性結果が得られたことは,一過性再感染が起こったことを示唆している. 供血者と受血者から検出した HAV RNA の塩基配列は同じであった. HAV の野性株(HM175)と比べると,長さ209塩基の RT-PCR 産物上に2塩基の置換(両方とも T から C)が見られた. NCBIの GenBank に今日まで登録されていた全ての HAV 塩基配列には、患者と受血者から同定した HAV の PCR 産物の塩基配列と一致したものはなかった.

ディスカッション

HAV はエンテロウイルス科のなかで、唯一の Hepatotropic メンバーとして知られている。 一本鎖の RNA ゲノムを取り囲む 27 ナノメートルのタンパク質の殻からできている。 80%以上の症例において、HAV 感染は無症候性であるが、症候性症例の 1.5%以下は急性肝不全を伴った致命的な劇症肝炎に進展する。 症状性の場合、HAV 感染の臨床経過としては、無症候期、前駆期、黄疸期、そして最後に回復期がある。 まれに、二相性または再発性の臨床経路をとる。 今日までに、慢性 HAV 感染と思われている症例は1つしか報告されていない。

無症候性ウイルス血症の期間が短いこと、そしてキャリア状態がないことから、輸血による HAV 感染の危険性は低いと考えられている。 この仮説は、疫学的研究及び遡及的症例報告による限られた証拠によって

支持されている。 血漿由来第 VIII 因子及び第IX因子濃縮製剤による HAV 感染の証明報告があるにもかかわらず,多くの疫学研究において,慢性的輸血患者または輸血病患者の高い抗 HAV 感染率については明らかにされていない。 このことは,慢性的な輸血は,血液製剤に存在する HAV IgG 抗体によって受動免疫を付与する可能性もあることをさらに示唆しているかもしれない。

成人男性患者または新生児集中医療棟の伝染病における輸血由来 HAV 感染について、限られた報告がされている(Table 1). 病院職員または患者の家族間での二次感染防止における深刻な抑制問題を頻繁に提起する流行病中に、汚染された血液成分による子供への輸血感染と、それに引き続き、その子供の腸を経由して看護婦または子供の家族に感染が起こった. これら全症例において、供血者と受血者の臨床的徴候及び血清学的所見の一時的な一致は、輸血に関係した感染については非常に疑わしいものであった. しかしながら、血液製剤を介した、供血者から受血者までの完全な分子及び血清学を用いた遡及的追跡は一度も報告されていない.

HAV は糞口経路によって最もよく伝播する. ウイルス血症は ALT がピークになる 1~20 日前に最高となり、そして黄疸期途中およびその後に後退する. したがって、献血による非経口 HAV 感染の潜在的危険性は症状が発現する短期間に最高となる. これは、症状発現の 6~18 日前に献血が行われた場合の血清学的に立証されたほぼ全ての HAV 輸血感染症例と一致する(Table 1). これらの全報告において、感染が疑われる供血者は肝炎の臨床及び実験室の感染サインを示すか、もしくは示さずに HAV IgM 免疫反応を示した. 私達の症例では、供血者が臨床的症状を発現する 7 日前に献血を行った. 私達は、文献と一致した、献血時における最も高い HAV 濃度を検出した. 献血から 22 日目の臨床的疾患期において、ウイルス血症は依然として存在していたが、明らかに後退していた.

HAV の非経口感染と感染力が霊長類において実証されたが、ホリガー(Holliger)等が報告した唯一例の みが、ヒト血液が感染性を有することを示している。 RBC ユニットの受血者は輸血後 31 日に急性肝炎を発 病した. 献血供血者は献血から1週間後に劇症 HAV のため死亡した. 死亡患者の血清の感染性は、チ ンパンジー接種によって立証できた. 輸血後の抗 HAV-IgG 陽性患者における HAV 再発または慢性 HAV 感染の出現については、一度も説明されてきてない.

通常、IgG 抗体は回復期に現れ、生涯にわたり検出可能であるのに対し、HEV に対する IgM 中和抗体は 黄疸期に初めて現れ、そしてその後 2~6ヶ月で消失する. 成人人口の大部分から HAV に対する抗体が見 つかることは、無症状なウイルス暴露が頻繁に起こっていることを示している. 最近感染したといから抗 HAV の最高力価(平均値、15,000 U/L)が発見されたが、能動免疫後の推定最低防御抗体価はおよそ 10U/L である. その上、HAV の慢性的進行はただ 1 例だけと考えられている、そして糞口感染 HAV の再発は知られていないので、HAV 抗体が終生免疫に付与していると信じられる. このような理由から、感染は HAV 感染の初期段階に限定される. ただ 2~3 症例の HAV 二相進行が発表された. これらの症例において、黄疸期初期から数週間後に臨床的な再発が発生し、それは 2 回目の ALT ピーク出現を伴った. 最初の臨床段階で中和抗体が出現し、ウイルスが糞と血液から消滅したにもかかわらず、感染再発中に糞及び血液の両方にウイルスが再び現れた. これらの症例において、最初の ALT ピーク時から最高 1 年までウイルス血症が存在し続けたことは、ウイルスが中和抗体を部分的に免れる可能性があることを示唆している.

イシカワ等は、HAV に汚染された血液ユニットが免疫応答性患者に輸血された唯一の症例を報告した. 供血者はRBC 成分の輸血後に急性 A 型肝炎の症状を発症した. 抗 HAV IgG 陽性の受血者は肝炎または抗 HAV-IgM 出現のどちらも呈さなかった. 私達の患者には、HAV に汚染された RBC ユニットの輸血を受け た後,一時的なウイルス血症を認めた. 彼の抗 HAV IgM/IgG 価は 25 倍に上昇していた. 5 日後には RT-PCR により HAV RNA 検出できたのに対し、輸血の翌日に検出できなかったことは、受血者において HAV が一時的で、受け身的に持続することとつじつまが合わない。 それどころか、このことは即時型の強力 な体液性免疫反応によってコントロールされながら活発な HAV 複製を伴い歳感染していることを示唆してい る. その上、FFPと受血者で検出したウイルスの塩基配列解析結果は同一であった. 一方でそれらの配列 は野外ウイルス HM175 および NCBI GenBank に登録されている,全ての HAV 配列とは異なっていた. そ のことはさらに輸血によりウイルス感染が起きたことを示していた。

不安定な血液成分を患者に輸血することで HAV が伝播すること,そして,その伝播したウイルスが免疫応 答性宿主においてさえも生き残り、短期間で複製し、そして著明な免疫反応を誘導することを、分子及び血 清学的追跡によって私達は初めて証明した.

私達の結果と文献に報告されたデータからは、HAV が輸血により感染することと輸血の安全性の意味を評 価することができない。しかしながら、受血者に及ぼす影響は大きく、そして感染と、血清学的、酵素または 核酸マーカーが感染に対し陰性を示す臨床症状発現期との間に、ある一定の時間がいつもあることから、供 血者の選択手順の方策は感染の可能性を防ぐために通常設定されている. 特に, 献血後に発病した場合 に、供血者に対し、献血サービスセンターに連絡することを通知するこの措置には、入念な受血者既往歴お よびアンケート、受血者あるいは患者がHAV感染に一致する症状を発現した場合の遡及的調査の開始が含 まれている.

以上