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Name of Journal: World Journal of Nephrology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 18078

Title: Incidence and prevalence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C in hemodialysis patients in Lebanon

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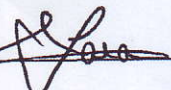
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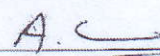
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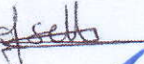
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Name of journal: World Journal of Nephrology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 18078

Manuscript Type: Original Article

Incidence and prevalence of hepatitis B and hepatitis C viruses in hemodialysis patients in Lebanon

AbouRached A *et al.* Hepatitis B and C in hemodialysis in Lebanon.

Institutional review board statement

This study is retrospective. It does not involve any intervention or interaction with living individuals, neither requires any access to private identifiable data concerning study subjects. It is not meant to record their stories, knowledge or experiences.

It only uses anonymous clinical informations, obtained from ministry of public health records, without affecting the patients' rights and welfare.

No IRB approval is required.

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Name of journal: World Journal of Nephrology

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Conflict of interest statement

- No funding has been received for the conduct of this study. There are no financial or personal interests to be disclosed.

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Data sharing statement

- All data will be made available alongside the article when published. No additional data are available

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AbouRached A *et al.* Hepatitis B and C in hemodialysis in Lebanon.

Biostatistics

- Statistical analysis was done using monthly serology results. Since the patients were starting or stopping dialysis during this period, each subject was calculated as "Patient Month" (p/m) unit during the incidence analysis.

Incidence (per patient/month) = Total number of Sero-conversion/Total patient month

Incidence (per patient/year) = Total number of Sero-conversion/(total patient month/12)

- We did the analysis separately for hepatitis B and hepatitis C.

In order to compare the incidence between the different governorates and since the population is independent, we used a Z-test calculator for 2 population proportions to compare head to head the incidence of seroconversion between the different Governorates.

- We used a $p < 0.05$ with a two-tailed test to reject the null hypothesis with a 95 percent certainty. Since our sample size was large, our analysis did full fill the requirement of a study power more than 80%. Concerning the prevalence study, we divided the total number of patient with positive serology for hepatitis B and C separately by the total number of patients studied in this period of time.

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AbouRached A *et al.* Hepatitis B and C in hemodialysis in Lebanon.

Informed consent statement

- We performed a retrospective study using anonymous patients' data collected through the Lebanese ministry of public health, which routinely compiles all HBSAG and HCV serology results from the affiliated hemodialysis (HD) centers across Lebanon on a monthly basis.
- This process does not disclose patients' privacy neither cause them any harm, and it respect their confidentiality.

No informed consent is required.

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