

P1937

Poster Session VI

Viral hepatitis and HIV/HCV co-infection

LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP OF CHRONIC HBV INFECTED PREGNANT WOMEN AFTER DELIVERY: A SINGLE-CENTER, PROSPECTIVE STUDY

I. Elefsiniotis¹, E. Veziali¹, D. Vrachatis¹, S. Hatzianastasiou¹, S. Pappas², G. Farmakidis², G. Vrioni³, A. Tsakris³

¹Internal Medicine-Hepatology Unit, University of Athens Elena Venizelou Hospital, Athens, Greece ;

²Obstetrics and Gynecology, Elena Venizelou Hospital, Athens, Greece ; ³Microbiology, School of Medicine University of Athens, Athens, Greece

OBJECTIVES: Data concerning post-partum reactivation (PPR) of chronic HBV infection among HBeAg-negative women are limited. In this study we sought to evaluate the frequency and the timing of PPR appearance and to identify any pre-partum virological and/or biochemical predictive factors.

METHODS: Between January 2007 and January 2008, a total of 41 HBeAg-negative chronic HBV infected pregnant women were initially evaluated at week.28 of gestation. Subjects re-evaluated at 3 months intervals during the first post-partum year and every 6 months for the following 4 years. PPR was confirmed with abnormal ALT levels and HBV-DNA levels above 2.000 IU/ml.

RESULTS: Fourteen women (34.1%) exhibited pre-partum HBV-DNA levels above 2.000 IU/ml, 18 (43.9%) of 45-2.000 IU/ml and 9 (21.9%) undetectable (<45 IU/ml) levels. Fourteen women were lost at follow-up. PPR occurred in 8/27 (29.6%) women evaluated. All PPR cases presented within the first 6 months after delivery (5 at third month; 3 at six month). Mean pre-partum ALT levels presented a trend to be higher in the PPR cases (47.3 vs. 22.2 IU/L, respectively; $p=0.094$). The only pre-partum parameter that could predict reactivation was HBV-DNA above 10.000 IU/ml ($p=0.004$). In particular, 5/6 (83.3%) women with pre-partum HBV-DNA above 10.000 IU/ml exhibited PPR, whereas only 3/21 (14.3%) women with HBV-DNA below 10.000 IU/ml (two with HBV-DNA above 2000 and the third with HBV-DNA of 1.850 IU/ml) exhibited PPR.

CONCLUSIONS: In the present study, PPR occurred in approximately 30% of HBeAg-negative women, and all events were recorded in the first semester after delivery. Pre-partum HBV-DNA levels above 10.000 IU/ml was a predictor of PPR.