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Abstract (publication only)

Dobrava virus detection in a patient with haemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome: a case report and review

N. Kalvatchev, I. Christova* (Sofia, BG)

Objectives. Haemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome (HFRS) is an acute infectious disease, caused by different viruses from the Bunyaviridae family. In the Balkan region, some of the cases emerge with severe general status, haemorrhagic syndrome, and particular damage of kidney function. In Bulgaria, HFRS is registered since 1953. Prevalence of different hantaviruses causing HFRS in Bulgaria is not clear. Case report. A man residing in a town near the northeastern city of Bulgaria, Shumen, reported to have a direct contact with rats in his farm. After sudden onset of illness (temperature, headache, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and myalgia) he was admitted to the regional hospital. Physical examination revealed oliguria, haematuria, acute renal dysfunction, bradycardia and petechiae on the body. Blood samples from the patient were used to perform real-time RT-PCR, while serum samples were tested by ELISA for antibodies against hantaviruses. Dobrava virus was detected in this patient confirmed by Taqman and SYBR Green I real-time assays and serologically by high titer of IgM specific antibodies. Conclusion. Distribution of different hantaviruses in Bulgaria needs elucidation. By mapping hantavirus infections using molecular methods, this severe viral hemorrhagic fever will presumably be detected in new areas.