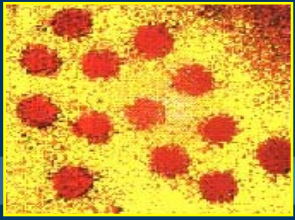


A Global Hepatitis A Meeting

Hepatitis A Fulminant Hepatic Failure: follow up of pediatric patients in Southern Brazil

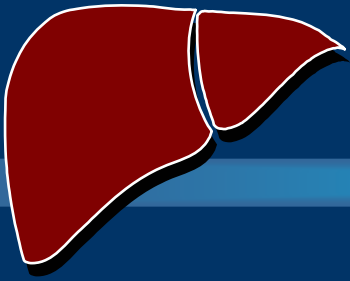
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UFRGS



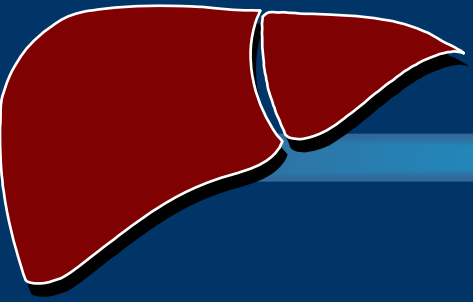
HEPATITIS A VIRUS

- ✓ Viral hepatitis A → an important health problem worldwide
the most prevalent type of viral hepatitis in Latin America
- ✓ The development of a vaccine to prevent viral hepatitis A
is a major scientific progress
- ✓ However, morbidity and lethality resulting from this disease
persist



Hepatitis A Virus

- ✓ Acute liver failure (ALF) caused by Hepatitis A virus (HAV) is a rare yet devastating condition with high mortality rates.
- ✓ Although efficacious vaccines are licensed in many countries, their use has been limited by cost and other considerations .
- ✓ In Brazil there is no universal recommendation for HAV immunization



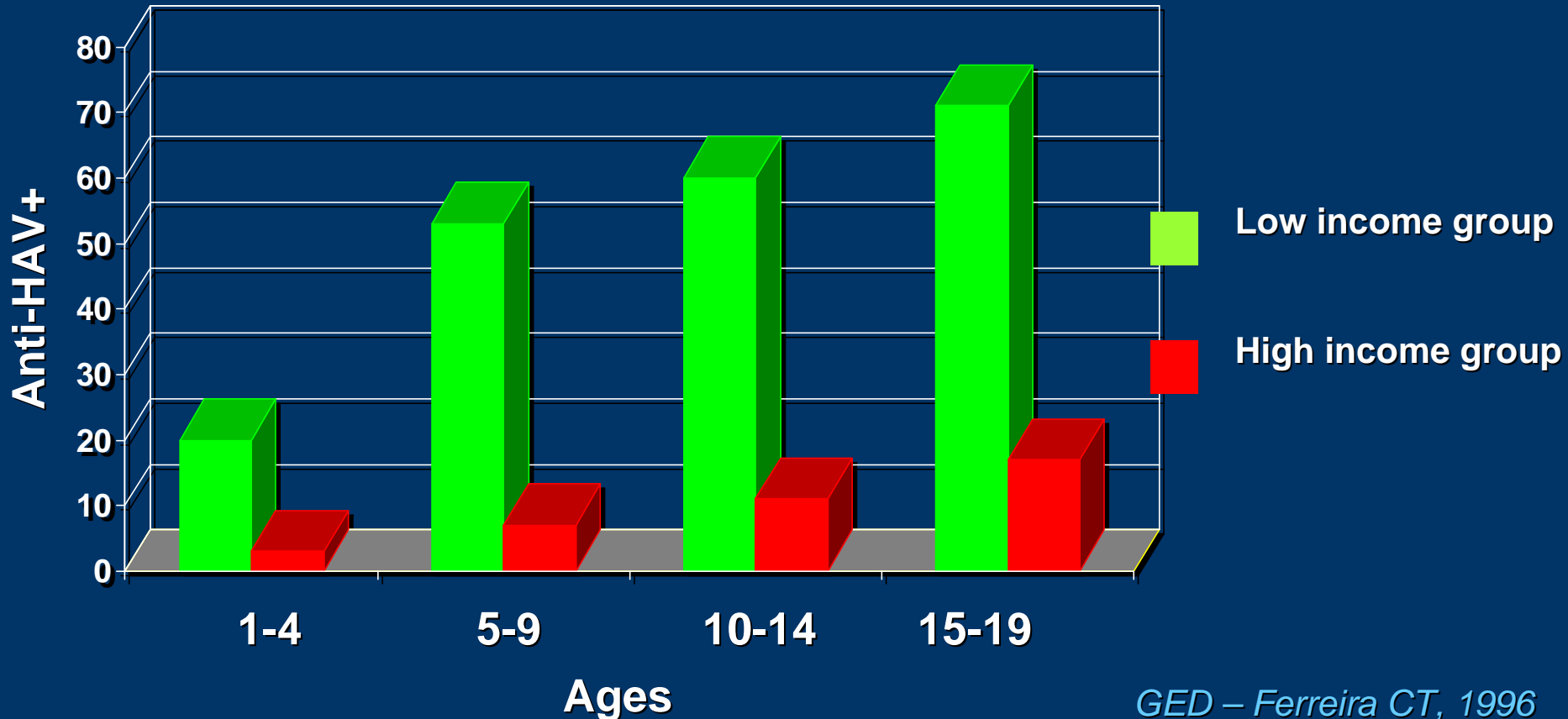
HAV Vaccine



There is a large variability in the serum prevalence of HAV in Latin America with lots of existing areas with high contrasting with low prevalence.

HVA Epidemiology

Prevalence of anti-HAV antibody in 2 groups of different socio-economic levels in Porto Alegre



Hepatitis A Fulminant Hepatic Failure

Objective:

The aim of this study was to follow-up pediatric patients with HAV ALF hospitalized in a liver transplant unit in the last 10 years.

Hepatitis A Fulminant Hepatic Failure

Methods:

- A retrospective analysis was made of 33 children and adolescents with ALF who had been treated in a liver transplant unit in the last 10 years.
- Ages varied between 2 months and 15 years (median= 6.2 +/- 5.3 years) and 21 (64%) were males.
- ALF was defined as biochemical evidence of liver injury, without previous known liver disease and uncorrectable coagulopathy - Protrombin time (PT) > 15 sec or INR >1.5 with encephalopathy (EN) or PT > 20 sec or INR > 2.0 without EN.

Hepatitis A Fulminant Hepatic Failure

Results of 33 children with ALF:

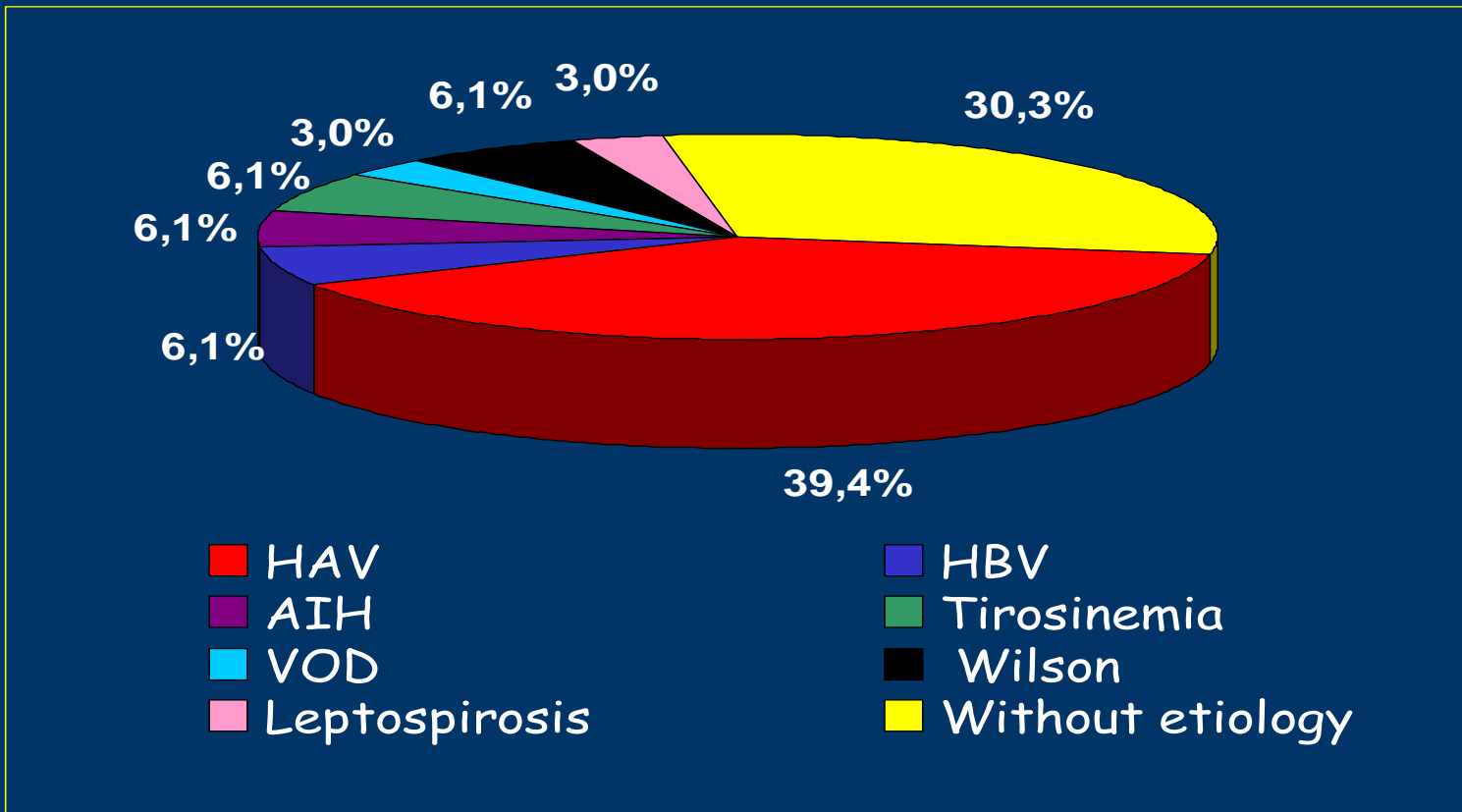
- 13 patients were IgM anti-HAV positive (39.4%).
- 11 cases (33%) were of indeterminate etiology.
- HAV ALF children were between 17 months and 15.6 years old (median= 5.8 +/- 4.6 years)
- 8 were males (61.5%)

Hepatitis A Fulminant Hepatic Failure

Results of 13 HAV ALF:

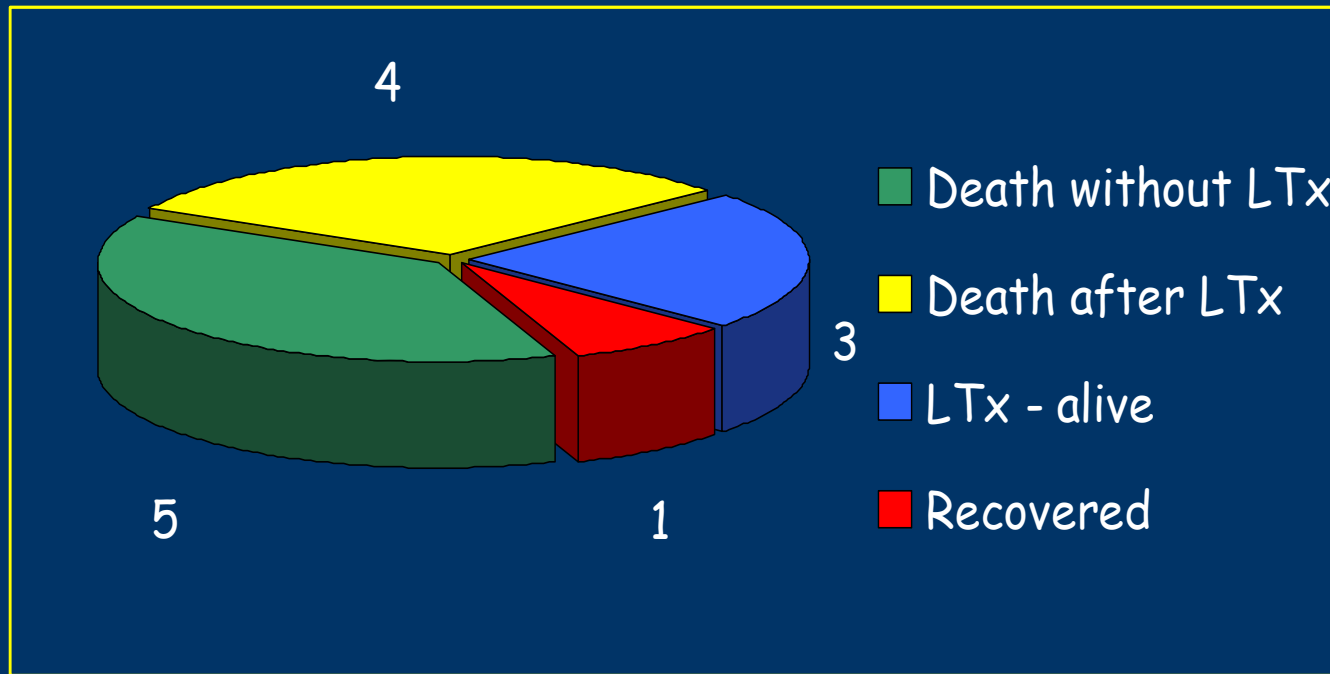
- All patients were on the list for urgent liver transplants:
- 5 died waiting for an organ (38.5%)
- only one patient recovered spontaneously
- 7 patients received a liver transplant : 3 died in the post-op period and 1 died 45 days after surgery
- 3 children are alive: 1, 2 and 5 years after the transplant

Hepatitis A Fulminant Hepatic Failure



Etiology of 33 cases of ALF

Hepatitis A Fulminant Hepatic Failure



Follow-up of patients with HAV Acute Liver Failure

Hepatitis A Fulminant Hepatic Failure

Conclusion:

- HAV was the most frequent cause of ALF with a high rate of mortality
- These results suggest universal vaccination against HAV could be a good strategy in this part of the world.