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Clinical, laboratory characteristics and results of plasma exchange on the patient with severe acute toxic hepatitis

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Objectives: This study aimed to describe clinical, laboratory characteristics on the patient with severe acute toxic hepatitis treated by plasma exchange (PEX); to evaluate effectiveness of plasma exchange on the treatment of severe acute toxic hepatitis.

Methods: This is prospective and descriptive study. The study was carried out on 62 patients with severe acute toxic hepatitis treated at Bach Mai hospital, Poison Control Center (01/2012-12/2014).

Results: Average age 41,5±17,79 years; male/female: 0,6; farmer 58,1%; on admission jaundice 98,2%, hemorrhage (22,6%); ALT 615,0±80,04 UI/L; total bilirubin 390,4±231,83 µmol/L; prothrombin 41,3±25,96%, INR 1,8±0,20; creatinin 81,5±14,14 µmol/L. Plasma exchange increased GCS 0,3±0,67 points/1 course of PEX; decreased ALT from 677,8±69,49 to 354,7±34,04 UI/L; bilirubin total from 338,0±232,86 to 208,2±148,60 µmol/L; NH_3 from 123,4±73,10 to 72,5±58,94 µmol/L; increased prothrombin from 37,8±22,10 to 61,2±15,10%; and serum glucose 1,3±3,79 mmol/L per one course of PEX.

Conclusion: Severe toxic hepatitis was common in middle ages, causes and clinical symptoms were diverse; jaundice and coagulation disorder were in high rate. Plasma exchange improved GCS, eliminated toxins (ALT, bilirubin), supported coagulopathy in patients with severe acute toxic hepatitis with little adverse effects.