

The prevention of hepatitis C virus transmission to hemodialysis patients and staff members.

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Abstract

In this review article, we cover 4 topics very relevant to those involved in the care of hemodialysis (HD) patients and in the management of a HD unit. We start with an overview of the progress made over the last 25 years to reduce hepatitis C virus (HCV) transmission in HD. Next, we discuss the potential strategies to prevent the residual ongoing transmission of HCV to HD patients. Third, we discuss the actions to be taken if a seroconversion for HCV is nevertheless detected in a HD patient. Finally, we briefly discuss how best to protect HD staff members from occupationally acquired HCV infection.

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