

Mistakes in chronic hepatitis B management and how to avoid them

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Mistakes In Articles

Hepatobiliary

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Hepatitis B virus infection is the most common chronic viral infection globally, affecting more than 250 million people and causing over 850,000 deaths annually from cirrhosis and hepatocellular cancer.

KEY POINTS

- HBV infection acquired at birth or in early childhood results in chronicity in greater than 95% of cases, whereas only 5–10% of adult-acquired infections progress to chronic infection.
- HBV is transmitted haematogenously and sexually, with the majority of infections transmitted vertically or perinatally in high prevalence regions.
- Despite the availability of a preventative vaccine, chronic HBV complications including cirrhosis and hepatocellular cancer account for more than 850,000 deaths per year.
- This material provides foundational epidemiological context for clinicians managing or studying hepatitis B virus infection.

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