HB Antigen and HB Antibody of the Nurses Working for the Clinic of Haemophilia

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HBs antigen (HBs Ag) and HBs antibody (anti-HBs) of nurses were investigated in a hospital where 150 patients with haemophilia were registered and the infusions of replacement for the haemophiliacs were very frequent. The infusions for patients with haemophilia or von Willebrand's disease were generally carried out in the pediatric ward, because the registered cases of haemophilia in this hospital mainly consisted of children under 15 years of age. Our observation revealed that 40% of the nurses in the pediatric ward showed positive anti-HBs, compared with 13.3% in the surgery ward, where the blood transfusion was carried out more frequently than in the pediatric ward, and also with the average positive rate, 15–25 %, of anti-HBs throughout Japan. In the assay of HBs Ag, one nurse in the pediatric ward showed positive to being a carrier, while 1 nurse with HBs Ag found in another ward of this hospital was not positive. These results indicate that the nurses who are working for the treatment of haemophilia will need a special education for preventive techniques against hepatitis virus infections. Furthermore, administration of HBsAg will be necessary for them when the chance of infection actually occurs.