

Incidence of Hepatitis 'A' Infection Post Vaccination Program

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Objective: The aim of this study is to assess the incidence of Hepatitis 'A' Virus (HAV) infection after the introduction of vaccination program in 2008.

Setting: Health care settings in Jeddah region, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Design: An ecologic record-based study.

Method: Data on HAV infections were documented from the health registries of the surveillance unit in Jeddah region.

Result: Four hundred sixty-nine HAV infection were documented from 2007 to 2009, the incidence rate revealed a decreasing trend from 4.57 per 100,000 in 2007 to 3.27 per 100,000 in 2009 ($p=0.016$). The decreasing trend was demonstrated among Saudis only ($p=0.007$). The majority of the cases were in the age groups of 5-14 and 15-44 years. No significant difference could be noticed between males and females.

Conclusion: A decreasing trend of HAV infections occurred in Jeddah from 2007 to 2009 among Saudis, which could be partially attributed to the HAV vaccination in 2008. Long-term follow-up is recommended to evaluate the result of vaccination.

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