HKU Identifies HBV Treatment Reduces Liver Cancer Incidence in Hong Kong

Recommends Strengthening Community Outreach to Reduce Number of Liver Cancer Patients

Press Conference
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Speakers

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Treatment Status of Hepatitis B
Liver Clinic, Queen Mary Hospital
(June 2017; N= 10,380)

Prescription data obtained from Clinical Data Analysis and Reporting System, Hospital Authority
Study on Hepatitis B Treatment throughout Hong Kong

Analysing:

• Prescription data from Hospital Authority (1999-2012)
• Liver cancer incidence (1990-2012)
Hepatitis B Treatment Prescription (stratified by age)

Seto WK et al. Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2017
Liver Cancer Incidence (1999-2012)

Age-standardized incidence (every 100,000 persons)

- **1999**
  - Age ≥65 years: 47.5%
  - Age ≥75 years: 18.4%

- **2012**
  - Age ≥65 years: 52.0%
  - Age ≥75 years: 28.0%

Seto WK et al. Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2017
Relationship between Hepatitis B Treatment and Liver Cancer

Regression Analysis
(Adjusted for hepatitis B carrier rate)

Male
55-64 years
Liver Cancer ▼ 24%

Female
55-64 years
Liver Cancer ▼ 8.5%

Male and Female
≥65 years
No significant change

>50% Liver Cancer
Low rate of Prescription

Seto WK et al. Aliment Pharmacol Ther 2017
Age Distribution of Hepatitis B Patients in Liver Clinic, Queen Mary Hospital

- <25 years: 1.1%
- 25-34 years: 8.2%
- 35-44 years: 17.1%
- 45-54 years: 26.9%
- 55-64 years: 30.9%
- 65-74 years: 12.7%
- ≥75 years: 3.2%

Similar infection rates
Conclusion

- Hepatitis B treatment reduces liver cancer in Hong Kong
  - Especially in age group 55-64 years

- Preventive effect not obvious in age ≥65 years
  - Majority of liver cancers occur in age ≥65 years
  - Patients ≥65 years have a low prescription volume

- For a better control of liver cancer, expansion of medical services to the elderly population is needed
Q & A Session