

ABSTRACT

There are enzymes which are known as Alanine Aminotransferase & Aspartate Aminotransferase whose quantification in the blood is done to detect hepatocellular damage. The increase in the levels of these both enzymes tell us about increase liver cell damage or dysfunction in the liver.

To access the transaminase levels is very good marker for the diagnosis of liver disease. Addiction is considered as an alarming issue all over the world especially in under developed countries. Among all the addictive drugs, heroin has more adverse and pronounced effect on hepatic cells. All the morphological changes in the liver tissue which are associates with its functional disturbance and which alter the metabolism of heroin and other toxins e.g., alcohol, if taken simultaneously they increase the rate of hepatocellular damage up to many folds.

To compare the affect of abusive drugs among IV and oral drug abusers by the estimation of hepatic transaminases levels is the objective of the study.

It was a comparative study, 240 patients were included in this study, which were grouped in to three main categories; i) IV drug abusers ii) Oral drug abusers iii) Controls. Each group had 80 respondents. In the pathology laboratory of Khalida Memorial Hospital Sialkot, the tests were performed for serum ALT and AST levels. Frequencies and % ages were calculated, and *Chi Square* test was used to find out association between different variables. Based upon the results of the research work, recommendations were made to have solution of drug addiction and application of these markers to formulate legislation to prevent our population from adverse effects of these drugs.