



Recent Advances in Hepatitis E

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Message from the Guest Editor

Hepatitis E virus (HEV) is a leading cause of acute viral hepatitis worldwide. HEV is responsible for more than 50% of acute viral hepatitis cases in endemic countries. Approximately 2 billion individuals live in hepatitis E-endemic areas and, therefore, are at risk of infection. According to WHO, HEV causes about 20.1 million infections and 70,000 deaths every year. In developing countries with poor sanitation, this disease is transmitted through contaminated water and is associated with large outbreaks, affecting hundreds or thousands of people. In developed countries, autochthonous cases of HEV have been increasingly recognized in the past several years, associated with the consumption of contaminated food, such as pork, wildlife meat, or shellfish. Furthermore, other effective sources of transmission have been documented, suggesting a possibly much wider distribution of the virus.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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