



HCV Contamination of Medicine Instruments in Surgery Department

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Increase in occurrence of Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) among the medicine staffs and 3% prevalence of this infection in world and 0.5% prevalence in Iran and existence of the HCV-Ag positive individuals without any special symptom lead to general consideration about transmission of this infection by medicine instruments.

Materials and Methods: The purpose of this study was evaluation of HCV contamination in surfaces (such as cabinet & door handles, telephones, water valves and electrical buttons,...) and equipments in the surgery department of the 5 selective hospitals on 2017. Sampling was performed with sterile cotton swabs in transport medium (BSAS: Bovine Serum Albumin in Sodium chloride). Samples were tested by PCR technique.

Results: As results, 36.7.3% (22 out of 60 samples) of surfaces and 21.9% (23 out of 105 samples) of equipments were contaminated before disinfection. 11.43% (4 out of 35 contaminated samples) of equipments remained contaminated after disinfections.

Conclusion: There is high contamination percentage in the surfaces that expresses the necessity of effective and regulatory disinfection procedures in these sites. According to the high level of infection in the surfaces and equipments in the surgery department, these approaches to disinfect equipments are not sufficient to omit HCV infection.