

Abstract of Presentation

Screening of Anti-HCV Drugs from Natural Sources

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Abstract :

The World Health Organization has declared hepatitis C a global health problem, with approximately 3% of the world's population (roughly 170-200 million people) infected with HCV, and they are at high risk for developing chronic hepatitis, liver cirrhosis, and hepatocellular carcinoma. In the US, approximately 3 million people are chronically infected with hepatitis C virus (HCV), many of whom are still undiagnosed. In Egypt the situation is quite worse.

As a transmitted infection, hepatitis B (HBV) is one of the strongest viruses in the world, "HBV is 100 times more infectious than AIDS and 10 times more infectious than hepatitis C, and that's why it is a very big problem. What makes it worse is that there is no cure. It is estimated that around 2 billion people are infected with HBV, 350 million have a chronic infection and 4 million new acute infections occur each year by way of HBV. Furthermore, HBV is responsible for more than 1 million deaths each year. What makes HBV so potent is the fact that it can live outside the body on a dry surface for more than a week, while other viruses, such as AIDS, die as soon as they leave the body. "Unlike the other forms of hepatitis, HBV can be transmitted through blood, sexual intercourse and through pregnancy, so a person with HBV can literally transmit it to anyone," In Egypt, 25 percent of the general population has HBV, according to official statistics. In fact, of all existent forms of hepatitis, HBV is the most prevalent in Egypt. "In Egypt, we actually have close to 2 million people infected with HBV.

The presentation concern with:

- * The situation of hepatic diseases in Egypt. Updating statistics
- * The Egyptian folk medicinal drugs used for treatment of liver diseases (scientific based approach).
- * Screening of the available Egyptian herbal drugs for their anti- HCV activities using different targets of HCV inhibitors, such as Protease and helicase inhibitors.