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**Title:** Hepatitis E endemicity and necessity of education about that

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**Abstract:** Introduction: The Hepatitis E is a kind of viral infectious disease that involves the liver and can be variable from a simple and asymptomatic to a fulminating and lethal disease. The cause of this disease is HEV and its prevalence was 10-35% in developing countries and Iran is in endemic area. HEV can cause mortality in pregnant women. As there was no study about prevalence of HBV in Lorestan province yet and according to the importance of HEV prevalence and history of being epidemic in neighborhood provenances, this study was performed to evaluate the seroprevalence of HEV in Khorrmbad city in 2009.

Material and methods: This study was a cross-sectional research which was done in 2009. In total, 400 people who referred to the health centers of Khorrmbad city were selected as the subjects of study using multiphase sampling method. After getting informed consents from all cases as well as getting 5 milliliters of blood sample, the intended demographic data was collected by a questionnaire. Then ELISA test was performed for evaluate the samples.

Results: In this study, the result was positive for 31 cases that showed the 7.8% prevalence of HEV in Khorrmbad city. The mean age of cases was 36 years that ranged from 20 to 97 years. The mean age of positive cases was 49.7 years that was higher than the mean age of negative cases (34.8 years). Our research showed that highest prevalence was in age range of 40-59 (61.2%). The positive cases (31 people) included 14 females and 17 males, 7.5% and 8% respectively, that there was no significant relationship between sex and HEV positive test. In our study from 400 cases, 16 cases had blood transfusion history that 3 cases was positive that there was no significant relationship between blood transfusion and HEV positive test.

Conclusion: According to the prevalence of HEV (7.8%), Khorrmbad city is endemic for HEV, probably that this prevalence is higher in the mean age 49.7% years and 40-59 age range. The both sex had same involve. We suggest that hepatic patients should be evaluated for HEV, routinely in Lorestan province that pregnant women have special importance. We recommend that more studies should be performed in Lorestan province, especially in rural communities.

HEV, Seroprevalence, Khorrmbad.

**Presentation:** Poster