Therapeutic option for hepatitis B virus infection have significantly improved in recent years. Moreover, new insights in the natural history of hepatitis B required an update of current national guidelines. Therefore, the German network of competence on viral hepatitis (Hep-Net) has revised guidelines on diagnosis and treatment of HBV infection in cooperation with the national societies for Gastroenterology, Pathology, Virology, and Pediatric Gastroenterology. Important alterations concern the indication for antiviral therapy considering an HBV viremia of 10^4 copies/ml (2000 IU/ml) as a critical level. Moreover, specific recommendations how to prevent and to treat antiviral drug resistance are given. Finally, the importance of HBV in the context of organ and bone marrow transplantation, treatment of coinfections and children and prophylaxis of HBV is covered.

Print-ISSN:
0012-0472

TUM Einrichtung:
Institut für Virologie

Occurences:
Einrichtungen > Fakultäten > Fakultät für Medizin > Kliniken und Institute > Institut für Virologie > 2007

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