

Acute delta hepatitis without circulating HBsAg

De Cock, KM; Govindarajan, S; Redeker, AG

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Abstract:

Abstract Infection with the delta agent can only occur in the context of coexistent hepatitis B virus infection. We describe a patient in whom the clinical features of acute delta hepatitis developed when seroconversion from hepatitis B surface antigen to antibody had already occurred and diagnosis of recent acute hepatitis B was based on high titre IgM antibody to hepatitis B core antigen. We discuss the significance of such a serological profile, not previously described.