SOMBAT   TREEPRASERTSUK : DETECTION RATE OF CRYPTOGENIC CHRONIC HEPATITIS IN NON VIRAL HEPATITIS B, VIRAL HEPATITIS C, NON ALCOHOLIC CHRONIC HEPATITIS IN CHULALONGKORN HOSPITAL. THESIS ADVISOR : NUSONT KLADCHAREON, M.D., MB ChB, MRCP (UK.), PONGSEPEERA SUWANGOOL, MD. 97 pp. ISBN 974-334-461-6.

Objectives   To determine the detection rate of cryptogenic chronic hepatitis among non alcoholic and non viral hepatitis B, non viral hepatitis C chronic hepatitis patients and to assess the clinical and laboratory findings prospectively.

Methods Thirty-six patients with negative for markers of viral hepatitis B and viral hepatitis C and who gave no history of alcohol consumption or consumption less than 20 grams of ethanol per day were recruited with consented for liver biopsy and blood tests for identify the etiology of chronic hepatitis.

Results Eight of 36 patients (22.2%) were classified as cryptogenic chronic hepatitis . Most patients (72.2%) exhibited fatty metamorphosis of the liver which included steatosis as well as steatohepatitis . There were statistically significant differences between the fatty metamorphosis group and the cryptogenic chronic hepatitis group with regarding to fasting blood sugar, serum alkaline phosphatase, serum ferritin and histologically necroinflammatory grading score ($p < 0.05$). Between the steatosis and the steatohepatitis , Body Mass Index (BMI) was the only factor showing statistically significant difference ($p = 0.02$).

Conclusion Steatohepatitis and steatosis are the most common findings of non alcoholic and non viral hepatitis B, non viral hepatitis C chronic hepatitis , especially in the diabetic , the obese patients and those with high serum ferritin level. Cryptogenic chronic hepatitis is not uncommon in our study in Thai patients.

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