CHAPTER 3 HYPOTHESIS AND OBJECTIVES

HYPOTHESIS

With the available literature and background, we hypothesize that, the distribution of HBV genotypes is different from the other parts of India because of ethnically distinct population which is tribal dominant and is associated with severity of chronic HBV related liver disease in Northeast India. Moreover, HBV genotype, e antigen status and viral load are critical risk factors for determining grade of liver disease severity.

Based on our hypothesis we undertook the current study with the following objectives:

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Family screening based study of sero-prevalence of HBV in Northeast India

2. Screening of the HBeAg status in the enrolled chronic HBV cases, and correlate with viral load, ALT and liver disease severity

3. Study the prevalence of different HBV genotypes associated with chronic HBV cases from Northeast India and study their association with liver disease susceptibility.