CONCLUSION

- Seroprevalence of HBsAg among the patients attending a tertiary care hospital was lower (0.63%) placing in the low endemic area according to WHO criteria.
- Higher prevalence was seen among male and in age group 28-37 years.
- Married population are at high risk of HBV infection.
- History of previous surgery, family history of hepatitis, tattooing and alcohol consumption is the major risk factor for transmission of HBV infection among the case group.
- Anti-HBcIgM was the best serological marker of AHB infection.
- HLA DQB1*03:01 allele was more frequently found in the CHB group than the controls. This association could be because of the inability of this allele to present viral epitopes effectively.
- HLA DRB1*07:01 and DPB1*09:01 alleles showed significant association with acute hepatitis B infection.
- Although an OR of 15.7 predicts a statistically significant frequency of HLA DPB1*09:01 in AHB patients, the wide confidence interval indicates that more data should be collected to reach to a more definite conclusion.
- So, individuals with HLA types may differ in resistance or susceptibility to disease. A large and multi ethnic confirmatory study is needed to validate these findings and to further explore the genetic pathogenesis of HBV infection.
- Future plan: For statistically significant results of HLA DPB1*09:01 allele in AHB patients can be achieved by screening more number of the populations and documentation of acute hepatitis among them.
So, individuals with HLA types may differ in resistance or susceptibility to disease. A large and multi-ethnic confirmatory study is needed to validate these findings and to further explore the genetic pathogenesis of HBV infection.